

Spiral Into Horror

UZUMAKI

by Junji Ito

3

P U L P G R A P H I C N O V E L

CHAPTER

13

THE
HOUSE



SEVERAL
DAYS AGO,
KURŌZU-CHO
WAS
DEVASTATED
BY A
HURRICANE.



THE
CENTER
OF TOWN
SUFFERED
THE WORST
DAMAGE.



ALL THE HOUSES
AROUND
DRAGONFLY POND
WERE REDUCED
TO RUBBLE,
INCLUDING OURS.

AS IF
BY SOME
MAGNETIC
ATTRACTION,
THE HURRICANE
WAS SUCKED
INTO THE
POND.



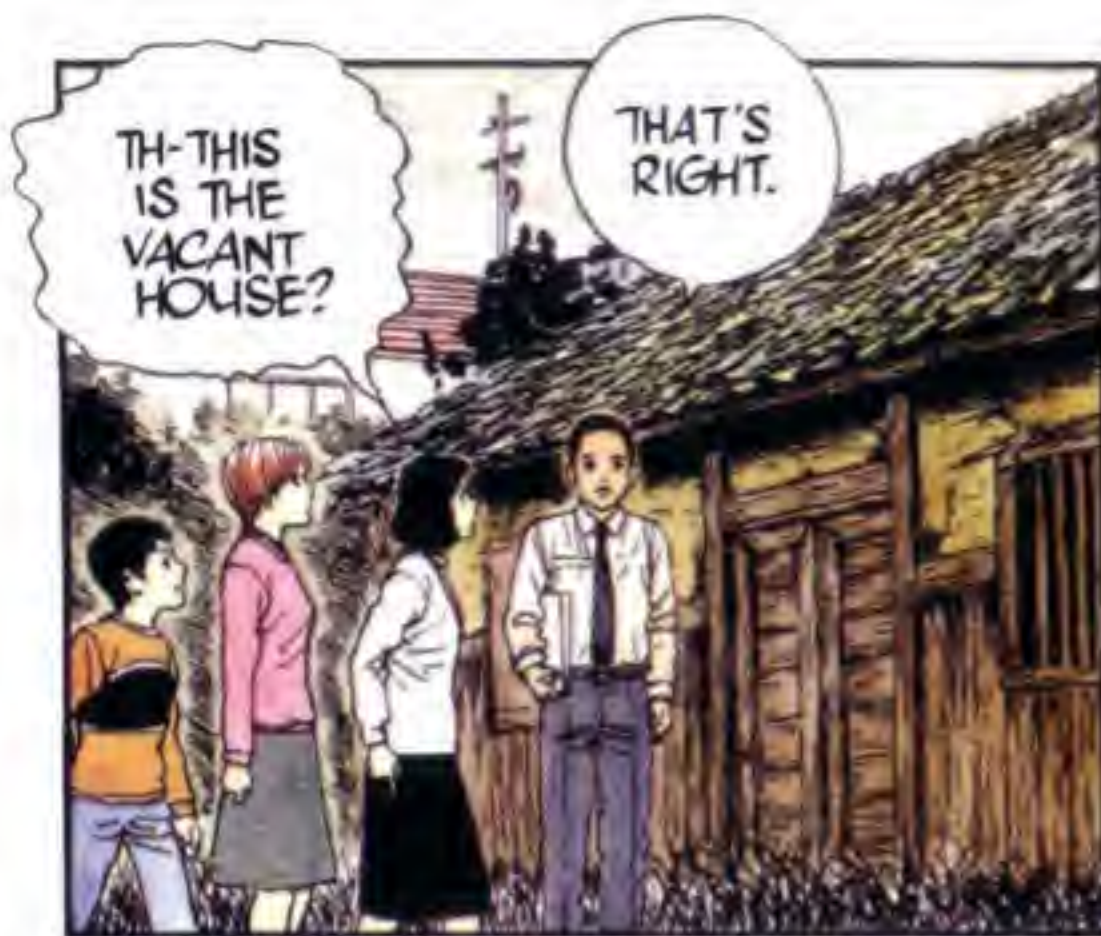
THE
HOUSES
NEARBY
WERE
DESTROYED.

MY
FAMILY
MIRACULOUSLY
SURVIVED
...



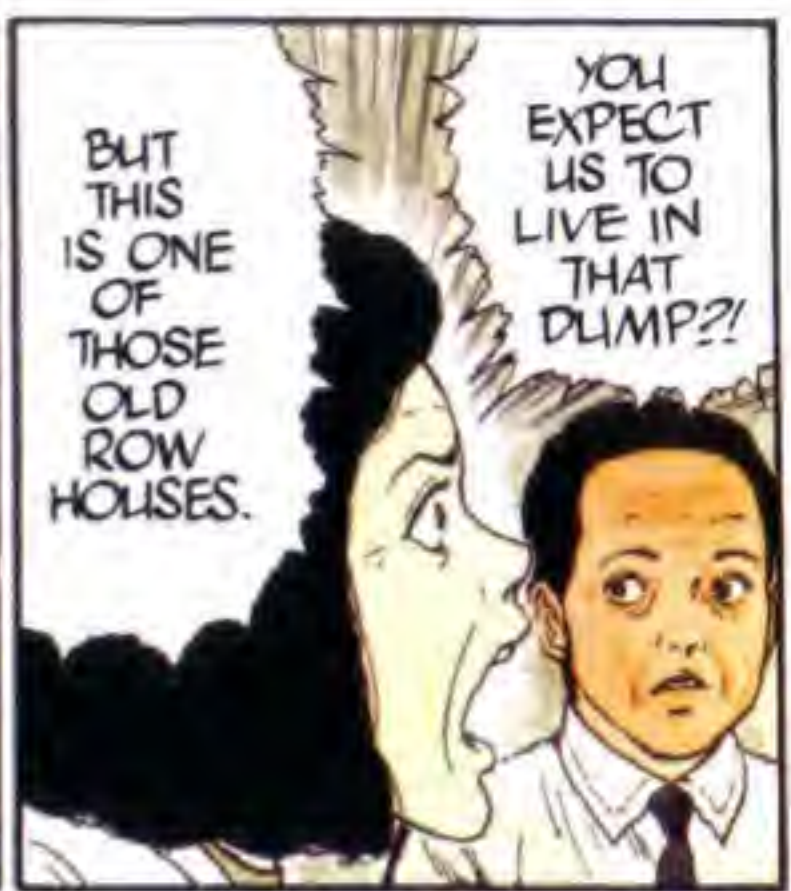
BUT WE
HAD TO
FIND
ANOTHER
PLACE
TO
LIVE.





TH-THIS IS THE VACANT HOUSE?

THAT'S RIGHT.



BUT THIS IS ONE OF THOSE OLD ROW HOUSES.

YOU EXPECT US TO LIVE IN THAT DUMP?!



NOT THIS PLACE ...

MOM, WE CAN'T!



DON'T YOU KNOW THE STORY ABOUT THIS HOUSE?!



I MAY HAVE MENTIONED THIS ALREADY, BUT...

IN KURŌZU-CHO, THERE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ROW HOUSES IN RUINS.



MOST ARE ABANDONED TO THE ELEMENTS, BUT A FEW ARE STILL INHABITED.



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UZUMAKI VOL. 3

This graphic novel contains the UZUMAKI installments originally published in PULP Vol. 6, No. 2 through Vol. 6, No. 8, as well as an additional chapter published here for the first time in English.

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PULP GRAPHIC NOVELS TO DATE

BAKUNE YOUNG VOL. 1
BAKUNE YOUNG VOL. 2
BAKUNE YOUNG VOL. 3

BANANA FISH VOL. 1
BANANA FISH VOL. 2
BANANA FISH VOL. 3
BANANA FISH VOL. 4
BANANA FISH VOL. 5
BANANA FISH VOL. 6

BLACK & WHITE VOL. 1
BLACK & WHITE VOL. 2
BLACK & WHITE VOL. 3

DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 1
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 2
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 3
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 4
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 5

JUNKO MIZUNO'S CINDERELLA

STRAIN VOL. 1
STRAIN VOL. 2
STRAIN VOL. 3
STRAIN VOL. 4
STRAIN VOL. 5

VOYEUR
VOYEURS, INC. VOL. 1
VOYEURS, INC. VOL. 2
VOYEURS, INC. VOL. 3

CONTENTS

Chapter 13 THE HOUSE	1
Chapter 14 BUTTERFLIES	35
Chapter 15 CHAOS	67
Chapter 16 EROSION	99
Chapter 17 ESCAPE	131
Chapter 18 THE LABYRINTH	164
Chapter 19 COMPLETION	195
Lost Chapter GALAXIES	219

BUT
THERE WAS
MORE TO
THIS
PARTICULAR
HOUSE.



THE HOUSE
ON THIRD
STREET WAS
SAID TO
BE HAUNTED
BY A
MONSTER WHO
CAME OUT
AT NIGHT.

SEVERAL PET
DOGS IN THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
HAD BEEN
FOUND SLAUGHTERED
EATEN ALIVE.



HA HA HA...
THERE'S
NO SUCH
THING AS
MONSTERS.

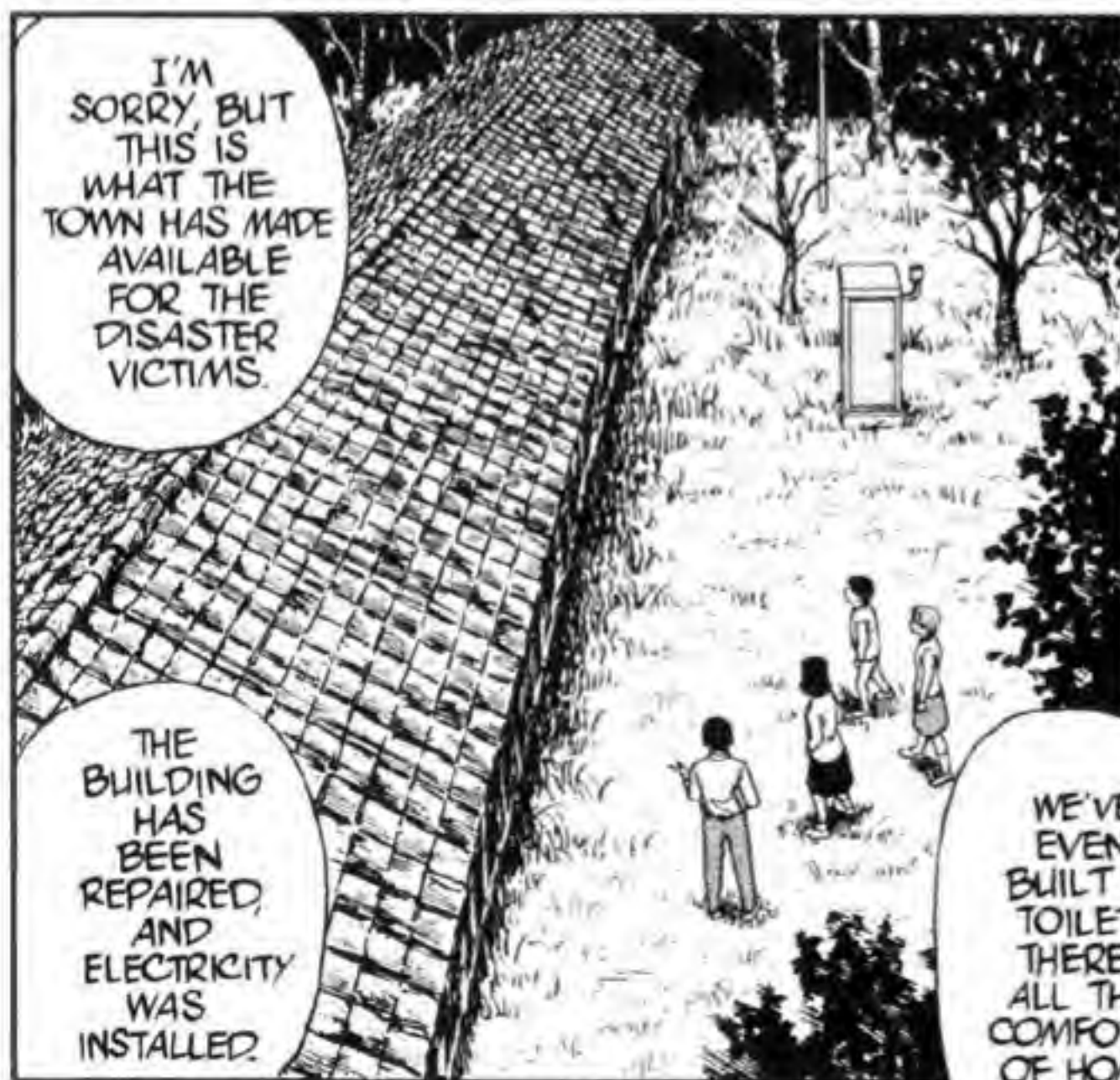


NEVER
MIND
THAT
NONSENSE,
BUT WE
ARE **NOT**
GOING TO
LIVE IN
THIS
WRECK!



I'M
SORRY, BUT
THIS IS
WHAT THE
TOWN HAS MADE
AVAILABLE
FOR THE
DISASTER
VICTIMS.

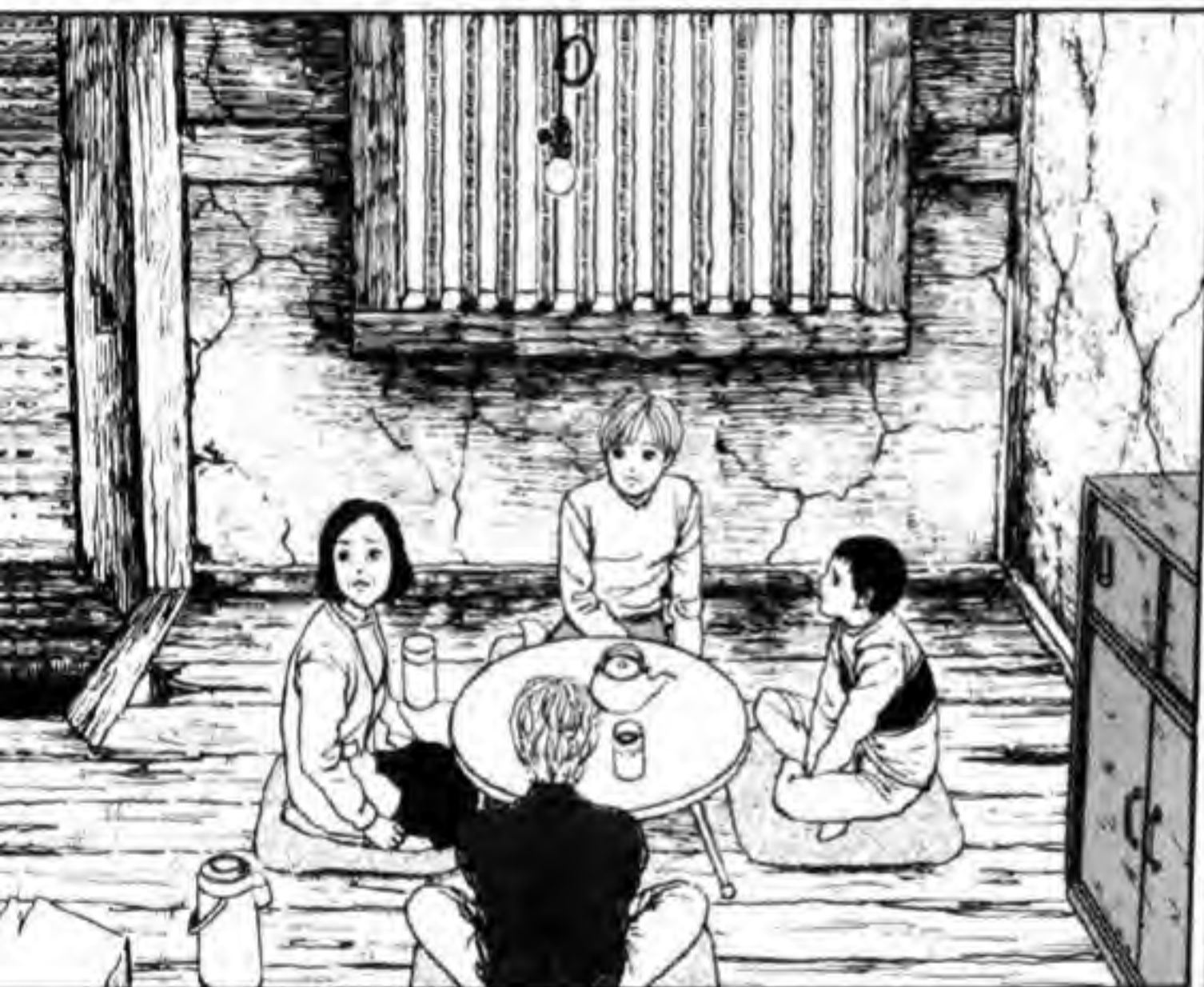
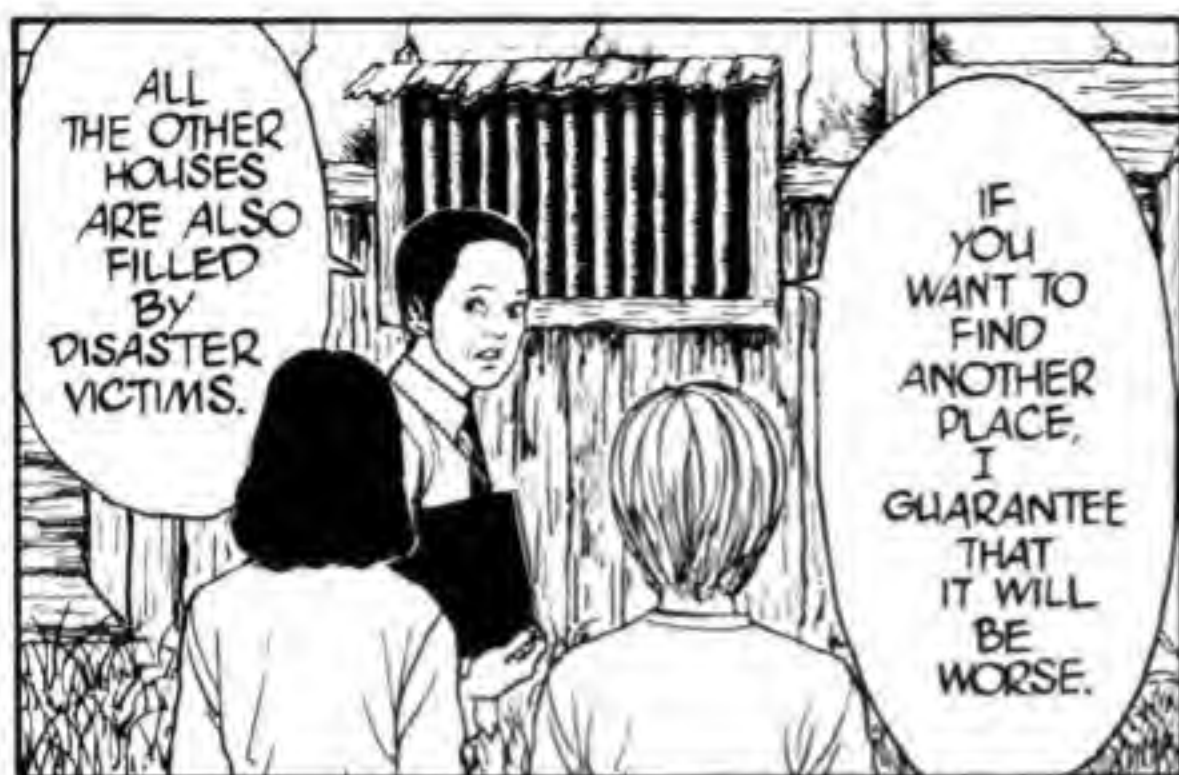
THE
BUILDING
HAS
BEEN
REPAIRED,
AND
ELECTRICITY
WAS
INSTALLED.



WE'VE
EVEN
BUILT A
TOILET.
THERE'S
ALL THE
COMFORTS
OF HOME.

THERE'S
THREE
SEPARATE
APARTMENTS...
TWO
ARE
ALREADY
OCCUPIED.







DAD, IF THIS PLACE DIDN'T HAVE ELECTRICITY OR PLUMBING, THEN WHEN DO YOU THINK IT WAS BUILT?

I DON'T KNOW... I HEARD IT WAS BEFORE THE 19TH CENTURY.



WHAT?! THAT LONG AGO?



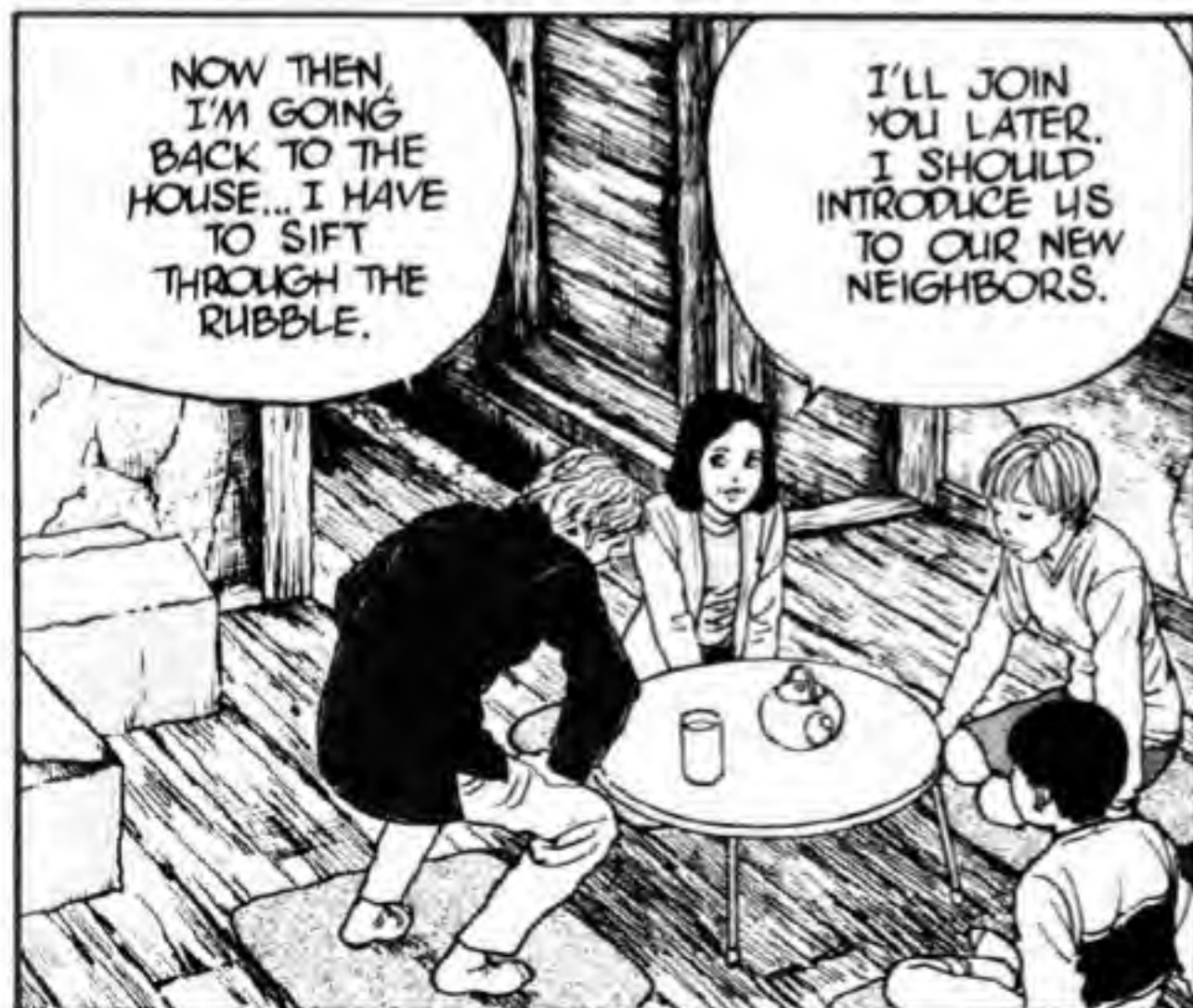
WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF IT WAS HAUNTED.



I DON'T WANT TO LIVE HERE. IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS.



STOP WHINING! BE THANKFUL WE HAVE A ROOF ABOVE OUR HEADS.



NOW THEN, I'M GOING BACK TO THE HOUSE... I HAVE TO SIFT THROUGH THE RUBBLE.

I'LL JOIN YOU LATER. I SHOULD INTRODUCE US TO OUR NEW NEIGHBORS.



KIRIE AND MITSUO, YOU COME TOO.



GOOD
AFTERNOON!
WE'RE THE
GOSHIMAS.
WE JUST
MOVED IN.



Oh,
HELLO.
MY
NAME
IS WAKA-
BAYASHI.

IT
WAS
A
TERRIBLE
STORM,
WASN'T
IT?



Oh... YOU
PROBABLY
SHOULDN'T
BOTHER
VISITING
THE
PEOPLE
NEXT
DOOR.



THEY'RE
NOT
DISASTER
VICTIMS.
THEY
MOVED
IN THERE
WITHOUT
PERMISSION
LONG
BEFORE
THE
STORM.



KNOCK
KNOCK

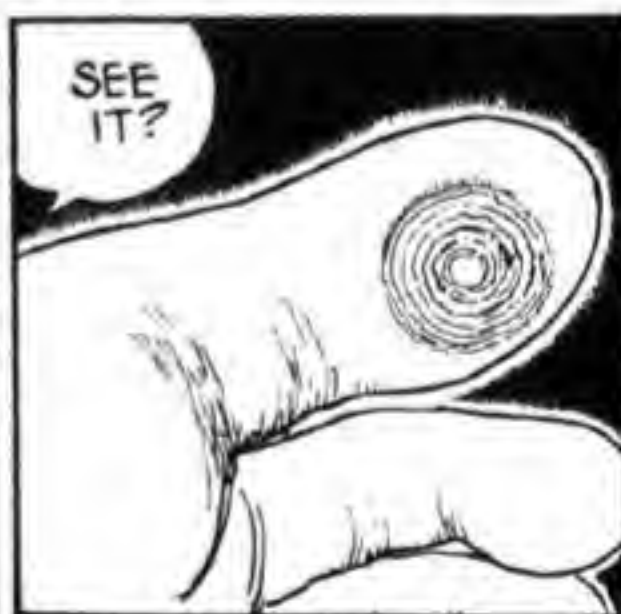


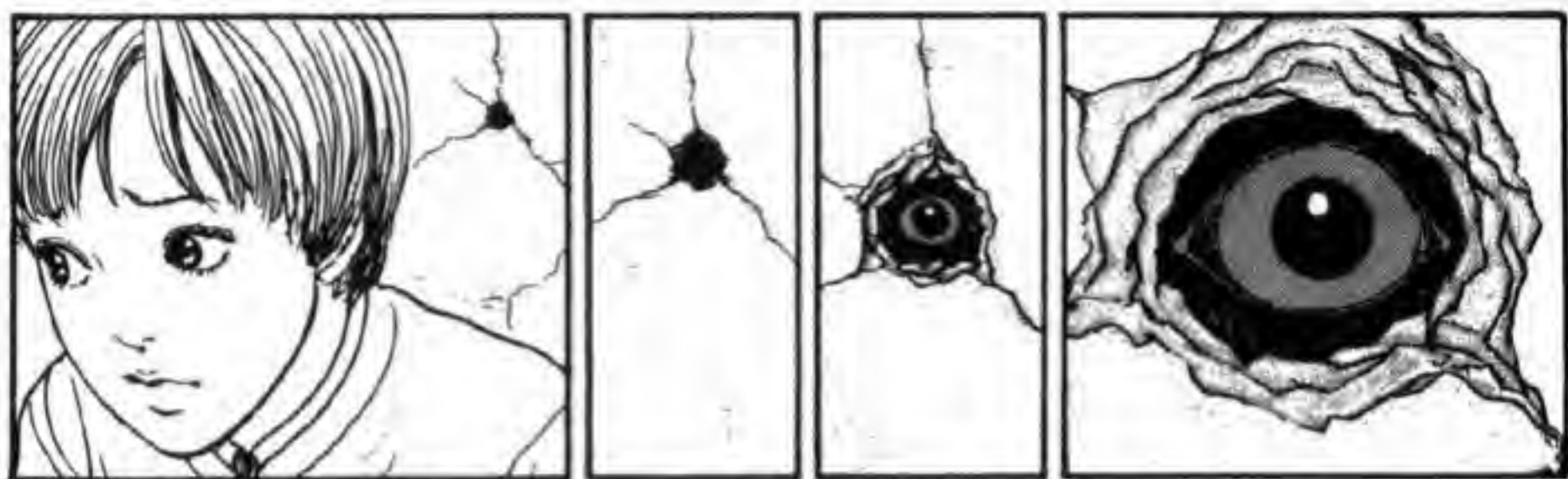
KNOCK

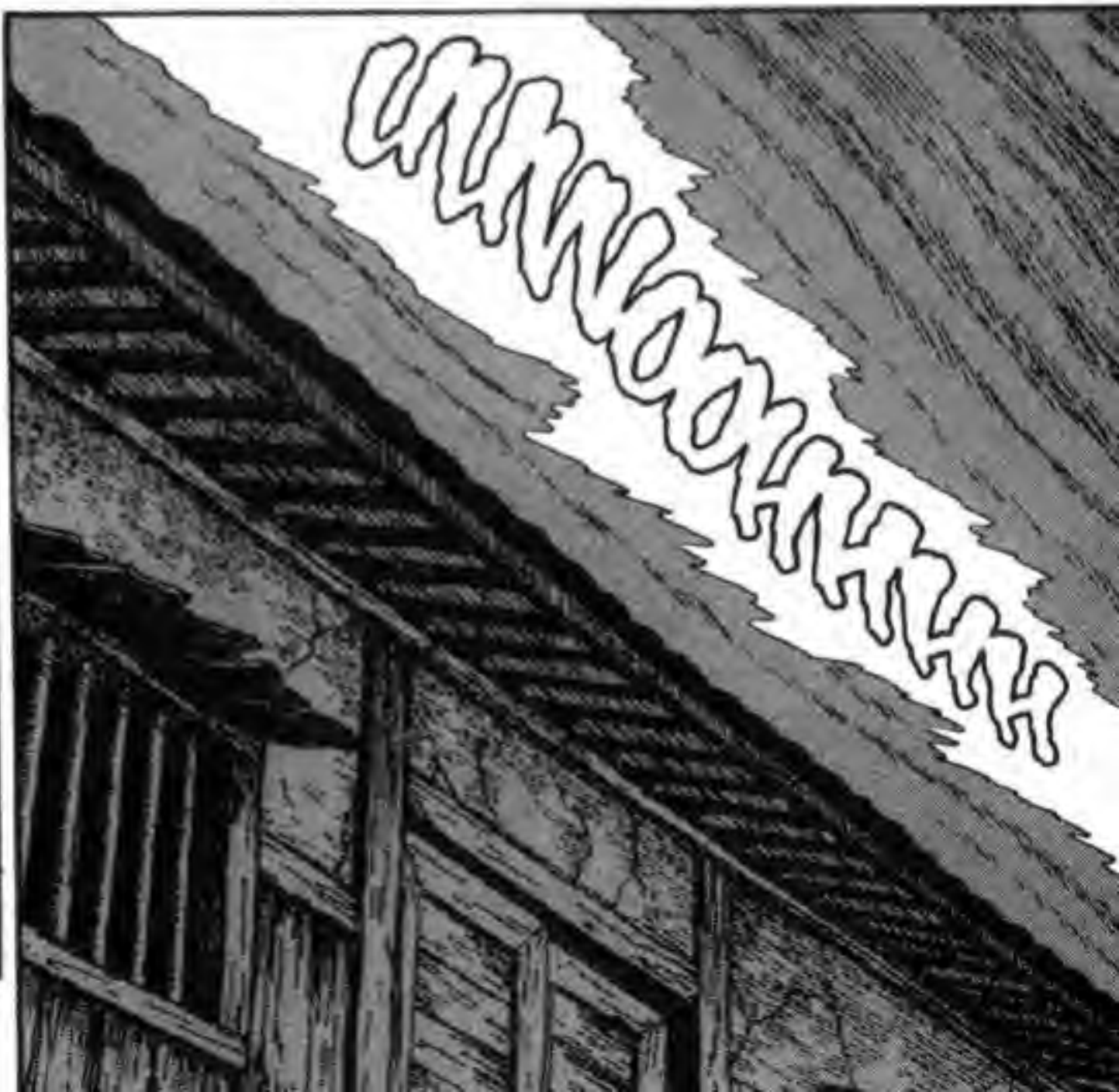
KNOCK



...









APPARENTLY,
THE SON
HAS A
SERIOUS
MEDICAL
CONDITION.
THAT WAS
HIM, CRYING
FROM THE
PAIN.

BUT
NO ONE
KNOWS
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH HIM.
THE OLD WOMAN
WON'T LET
HIM BE
SEEN.

THEY
SAY
HE'S
DEFORMED
DUE TO
HIS
ILLNESS.

CREAK

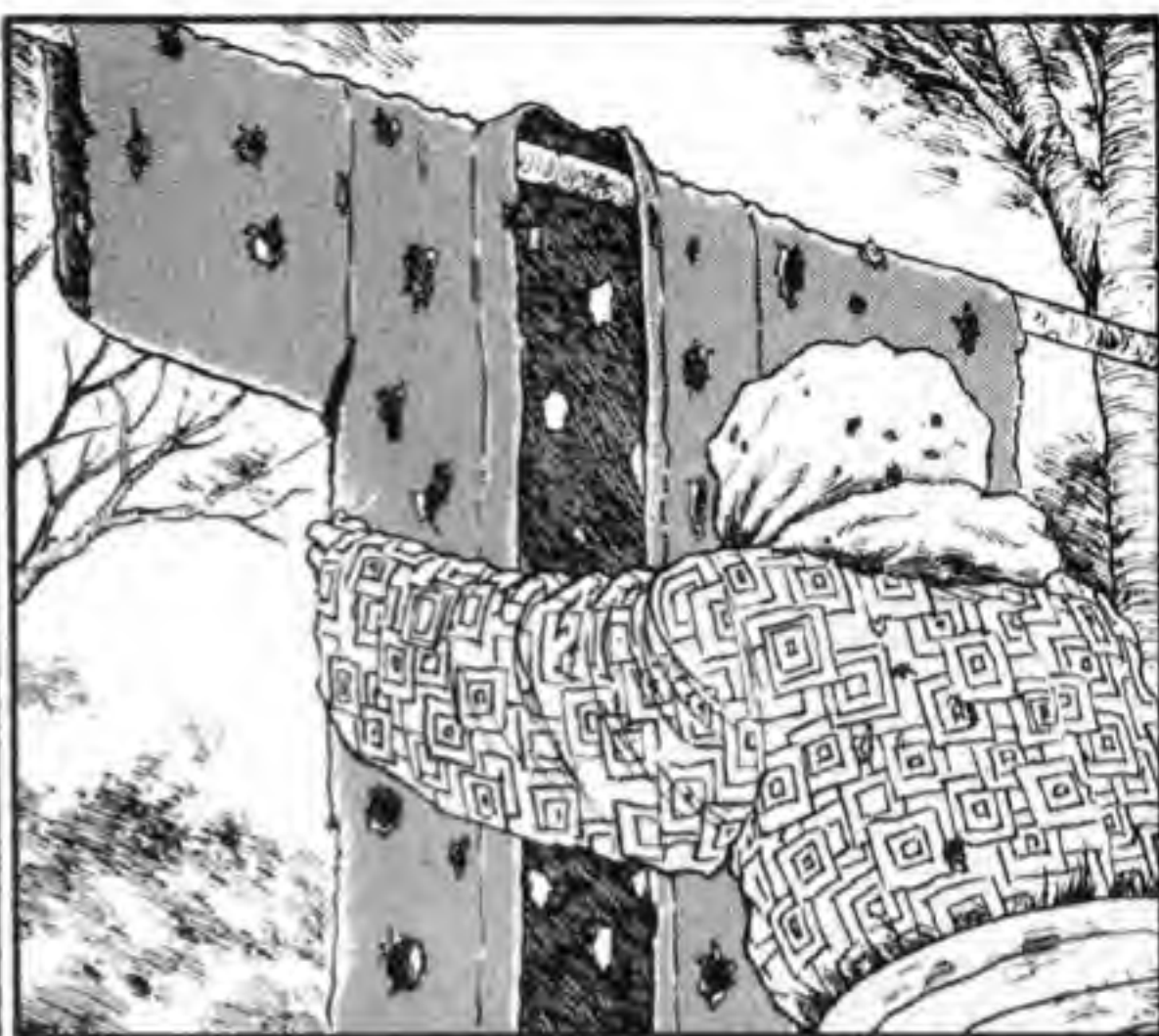
IF
HE
LOOKS
BAD
ENOUGH...

THAT
WOULD
EXPLAIN
RUMORS
ABOUT
A
MONSTER.



SPEAKING
OF
WHICH...

THERE
SHE
IS
NOW.







THAT
AFTERNOON
...



IT'S
HOWLING
AGAIN!



NO!
THAT'S A
DIFFERENT
NOISE!
THAT'S
THE
OLD
WOMAN
CRYING!

AND
IT
SOUNDS
URGENT!



SHE
MIGHT
BE
IN
DANGER!

KIRIE!



EXCUSE
ME!





THE AMBULANCE
CREW TOOK A
LONG TIME
REMOVING THE
SON'S BODY
FROM THE
HOUSE.



AT THE
HOSPITAL,
DOCTORS
DIAGNOSED
THE OLD
WOMAN WITH
AN UNKNOWN
SKIN
DISEASE,
AND KEPT
HER FOR
OBSERVATION.

THE
SON
HAD
SUFFERED
FROM
THE
SAME
THING.



WOW,
WHAT
A
SHAME!

I
WISH
I'D
BEEN
THERE.



SO
HOW
DID
THE
SON
LOOK?

PLEASE
TELL
ME. I'M
REALLY
INTERESTED.



YOU
SEE...

I
WENT
INTO
THEIR
ROOMS
THE
OTHER
NIGHT.



THE
FLOOR
WHERE
THE SON
SLEPT WAS
COVERED
WITH SMALL
HOLES.

SMALL
HOLES...
NOW
WHAT
WERE
THEY?



I
HAVE
NOTHING
TO
TELL
YOU.

BUT
HE
WASN'T
NORMAL.
WAS
HE?



COME
ON.
I
PROMISE
NOT
TO
TELL
ANYONE.



I'M
SORRY,
I'D
RATHER
NOT.

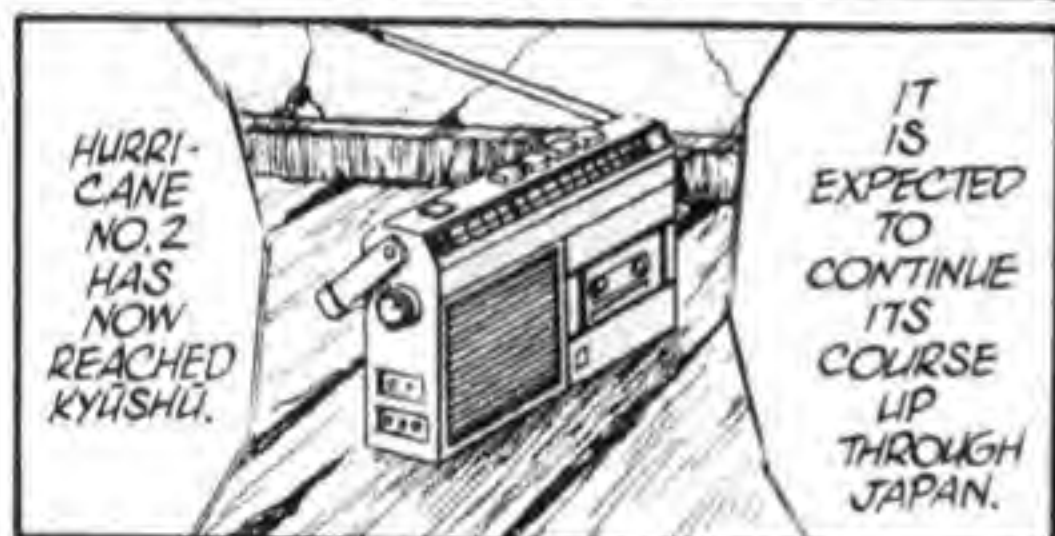


HAH...

I
SEE...
YOU'RE
PRETTY
HEADSTRONG,
AREN'T
YOU?



NYOOOOOOO OOO



HURRI-
CANE
NO. 2
HAS
NOW
REACHED
KYUSHU.

IT
IS
EXPECTED
TO
CONTINUE
ITS
COURSE
UP
THROUGH
JAPAN.



WE HAVE
RECEIVED
REPORTS THAT,
LIKE HURRICANE
NO. 1, THE SPIRAL-
SHAPED "EYE"
OF THE STORM
IS ACTUALLY VISIBLE
FROM THE
GROUND.



I'VE
GOT
SOME
KIND OF
WARTS
ON MY
FEET.

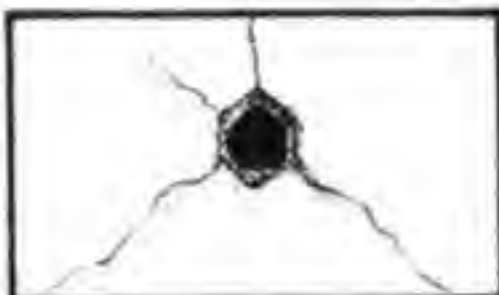
THERE'S
LOTS
OF
THEM.



ME,
TOO.
THEY
HURT!

THEY'RE
ON MY
HANDS.

BOTH
OF
YOU? I
HAVE
THEM,
TOO.





IT HURTS!
IT HURTS!

W-W-W-WE
CAN'T
GO TO THE
HOSPITAL,
THOUGH, IN
THIS
STORM...

IT HURTS!
IT HURTS!

W-W-W-WE
CAN'T
GO TO THE
HOSPITAL,
THOUGH, IN
THIS
STORM...



**AHH!
WHAT'S
THIS?**

THOSE THINGS ON MY FEET!

ВАНТРАН

THESE ARE THE SAME THINGS I SAW IN THAT OLD WOMAN AND HER SON!

==YOO

THESE AREN'T WARTS!

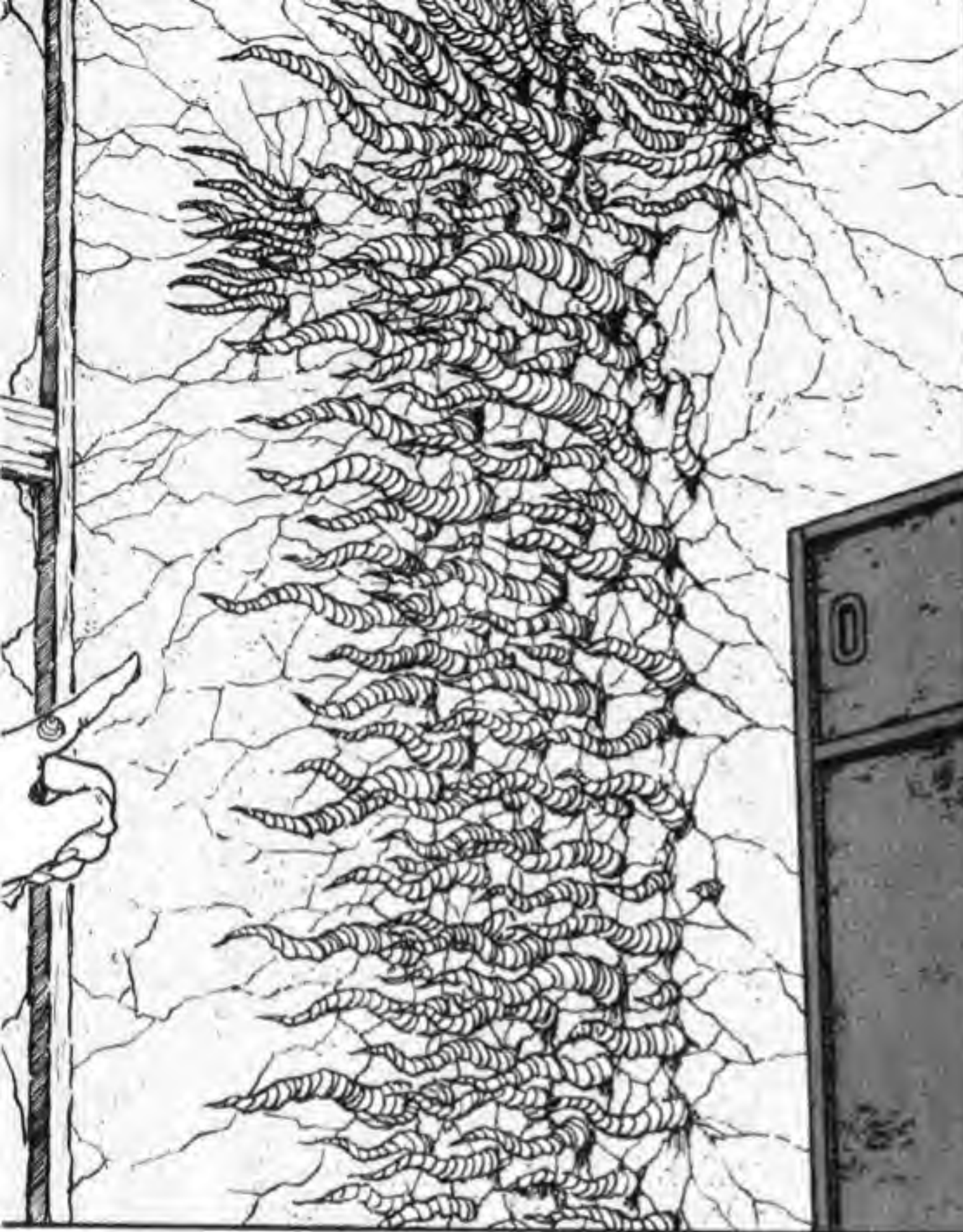
THESE ARE THE SAME THINGS I SAW IN THAT OLD WOMAN AND HER SON!

==YOO

THESE AREN'T WARTS!



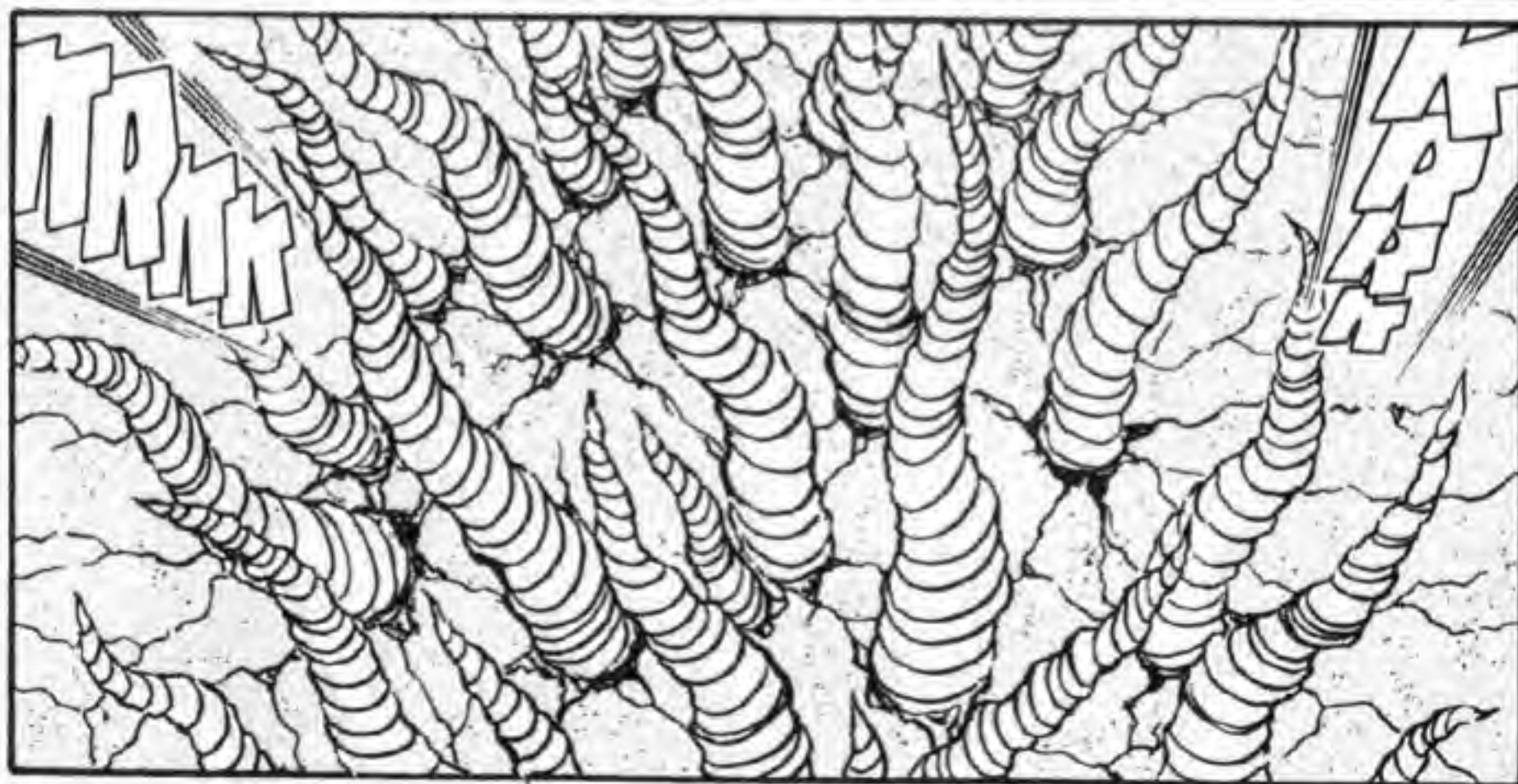




THOSE
WEREN'T
GROWING ON
THE WALL
UNTIL
TODAY!!

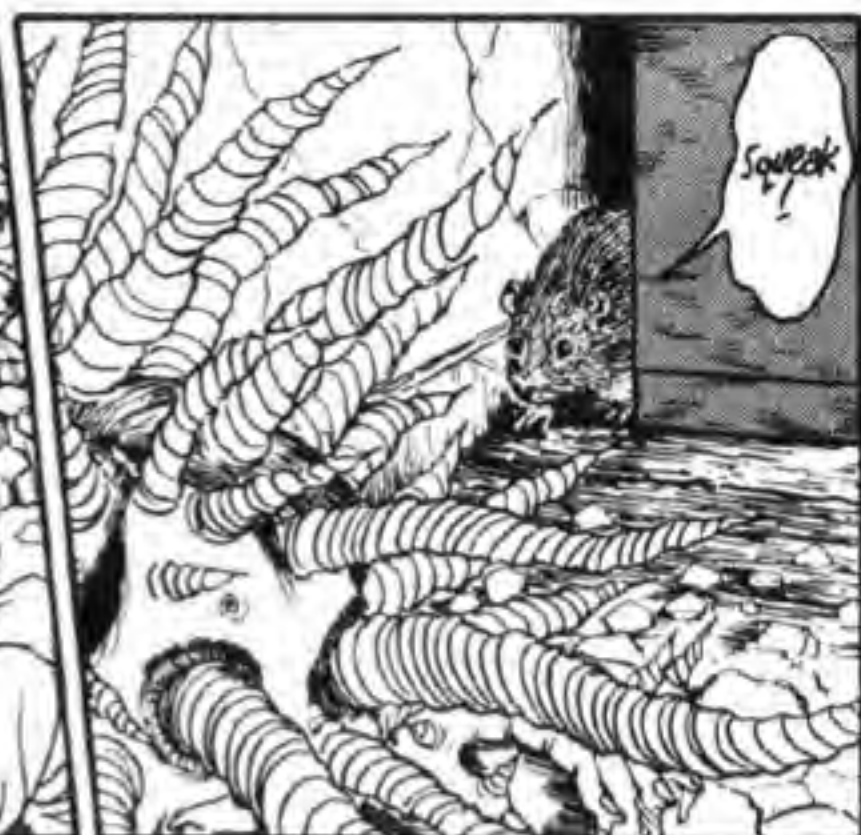


WH-
WHAT
ARE
THOSE...
HORNS?











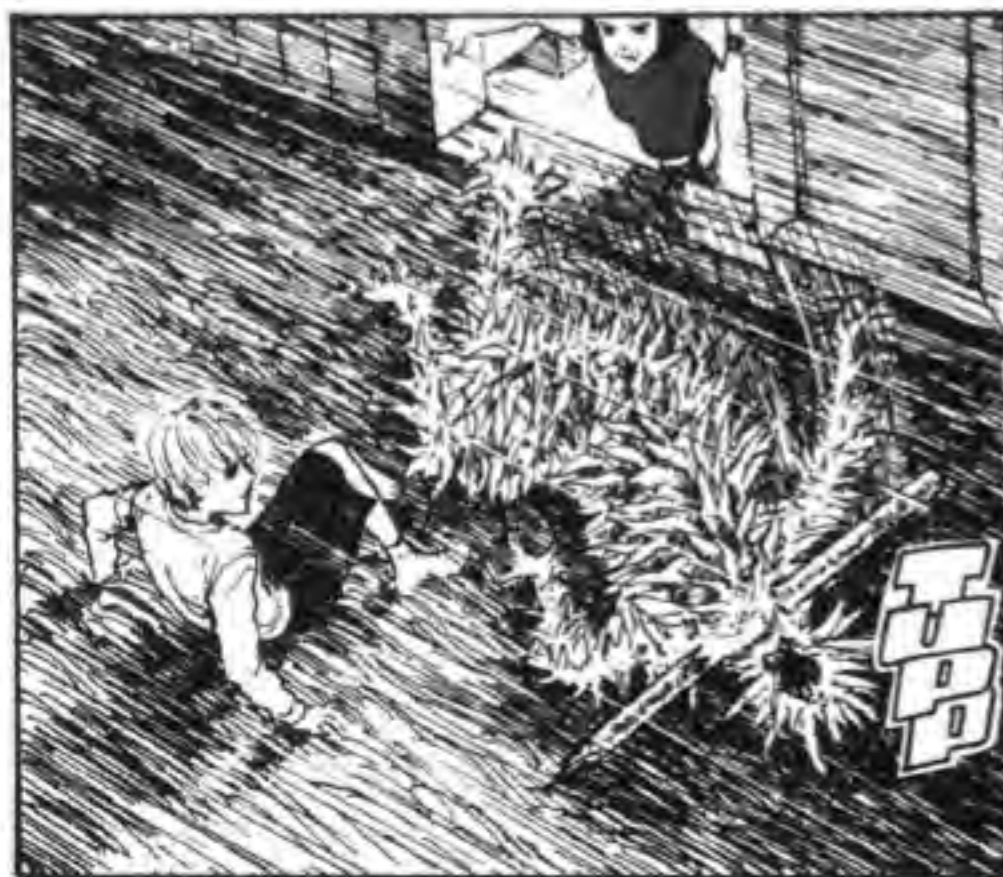
KUH...
KUH...



AAAH!







NOT LONG AFTER,
HURRICANE NO.2
AND ITS ROAR
WERE SUCKED
INTO DRAGONFLY
POND.

WE
CRAWLED OUR
WAY OUT
OF THE
ROW HOUSE,
AND OUR
SKIN DISEASE
SOON WENT
AWAY.



CHAPTER

14

BUTTERFLIES





SO
WHAT KIND
OF PLACE
IS THIS
KURŌZU-
CHO,
ANYWAY?

IT'S A
LITTLE TOWN
TO THE WEST
OF MIDORIYAMA-
SHI, MS.
MARIYAMA.

POPULATION
6,000, TUCKED
BETWEEN
THE SEA
AND THE
MOUNTAINS.



I WISH
THERE WAS
MORE I
COULD TELL
YOU.

AFTER
HURRICANE NO. 1
AND NO. 2 THERE
WERE REPORTS ON
THE DAMAGE...

BUT
WITH
THE
ONSLAUGHT
OF
HURRICANES
3, 4, 5 AND 6,
WE'VE LOST
ALL CONTACT
WITH THE
INSIDE.

THERE
COULD BE
ANYTHING
GOING ON
IN THERE.



WE CAN'T
BE THE FIRST
REPORTERS TO
GO IN. I WONDER
WHAT HAPPENED
TO THE
OTHERS?

WELL,
THAT'S
WHAT
THEY
SENT
US TO
FIND
OUT.

THERE
IT
IS.

AT
THE
END OF
THE
TUNNEL.



















WH-
WHAT
IS
THIS
LAKE?







ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN TIED UP?

WHO DID THIS TO YOU?



WAIT!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



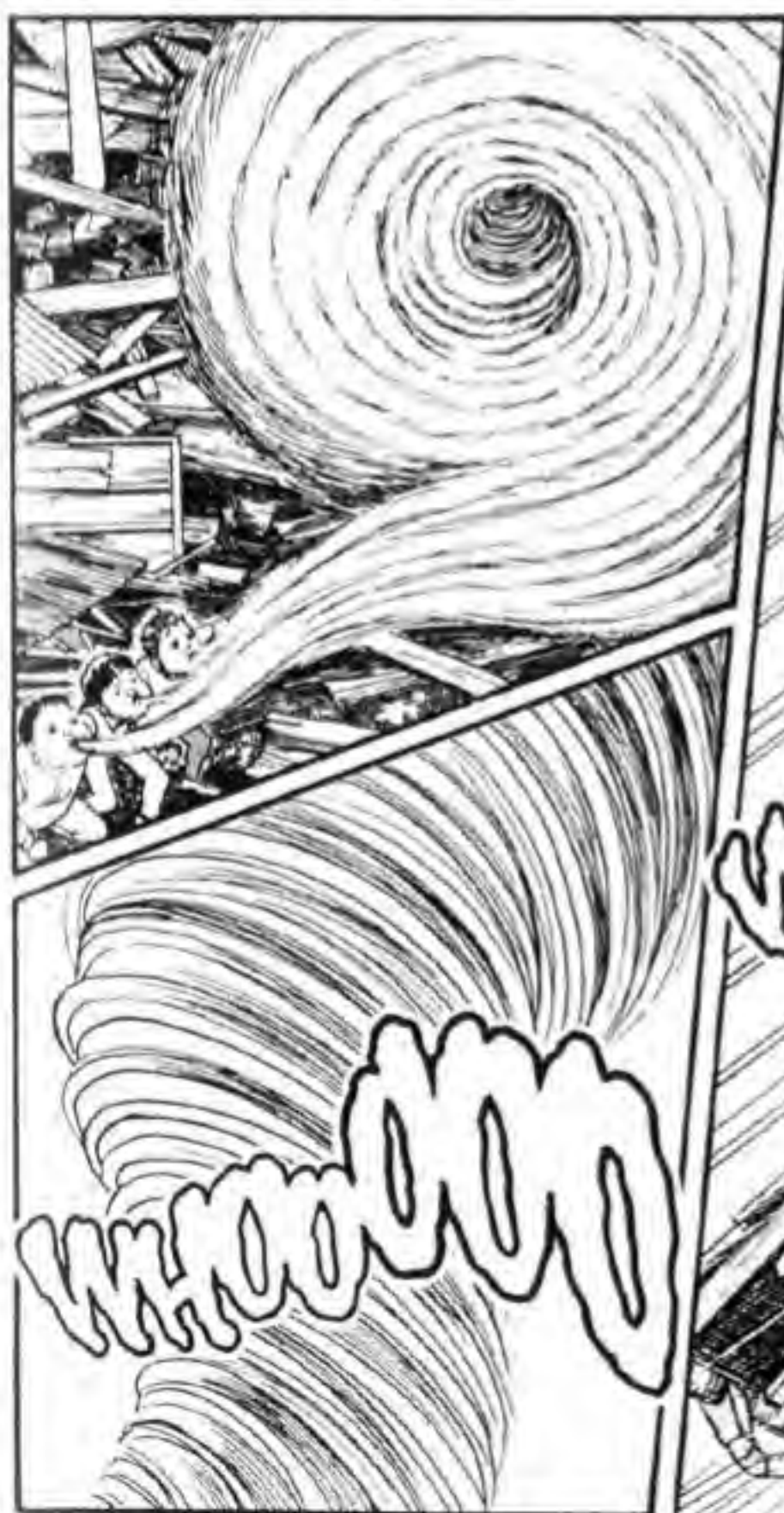
HEY!

AREN'T THERE ANY ADULTS AROUND?



WAIT A MINUTE!













HOW
DID
THAT
HAPPEN?

WHAT'S
GOING
ON
HERE?



ARE
YOU
ALL
RIGHT?



YOU
LOOK
HURT...CAN
YOU
WALK?

MITSUO,
SLOW
DOWN!

I-I'M
A
REPORTER
FOR
TOYO
TELEVISION.
MY
NAME IS
CHIE
MARUYAMA...

TOYO
TV?
I
THOUGHT
YOU
LOOKED
FAMILIAR.

I'M
KIRIE
GOSHIMA.

THIS IS
MY BROTHER
MITSUO. RIGHT
NOW WE'RE
LOOKING FOR
FOOD.

I'M
REALLY
CONFUSED.

WHAT...
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
HERE?

SSHHH!
YOU'RE
MORE
WINDED
THAN
YOU
THINK...

EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST
SUDDEN
MOTION
OR LOUD
NOISE HERE
CREATES
AN
IMMENSE
WHIRLWIND.

THEY
SAY IT'S
BECAUSE OF
THE FORCE, THE
AIR PRESSURE,
FROM THE
HURRICANES
SUCKED IN
BY DRAGONFLY
POND.

THAT
LAKE
SUCKED IN
ALL THE
HURRICANES.
IT SWALLOWED
ALL SIX
OF THEM.

NOW
IT'S A
WHIRLPOOL
THAT
NEVER
STOPS.



WE
HAVE TO
MOVE
SLOWLY
SO WE
DON'T
CREATE
ANY
MORE
TWISTERS.

I
HAVE
NO
IDEA
HOW
LONG
THIS
WILL
GO
ON.



WAIT...
YOU
MEAN
I CAN
MAKE A
WHIRL-
WIND
TOO?

YES...
ANY-
ONE
CAN.



SO
PLEASE
KEEP
YOUR
VOICE
DOWN.

EVEN
YOUR
BREATH
CAN
CREATE
ONE.



IM-
POSSIBLE
...THEN I
WAS RES-
PONSIBLE
...

FOR
BLOWING
THOSE
KIDS
AWAY?



HOW
HORRIBLE...
I DID
SOMETHING
HORRIBLE...THOSE
KIDS ARE
PROBABLY...

WHAT
SHOULD
I
DO?



WHAT'S
WRONG
?

THOSE
KIDS... AND
MY CREW...
AND THAT
HELICOPTER...



PLEASE
DON'T
CRY.
WE'LL
TAKE
YOU TO
OUR
PLACE.

IT'S
TOO
DANGER-
OUS
TO BE
OUTSIDE.



WE'RE
ALMOST
THERE.



THIS IS
LIKE THE
"BUTTERFLY
EFFECT"...

Hm?



"A BUTTERFLY
FLAPPING ITS
WINGS CAN
CAUSE A
HURRICANE ON
THE OTHER SIDE
OF THE
WORLD."

THAT'S
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
IN
THIS
TOWN.



THIS
IS THE
PLACE
WHERE WE
LIVE.

YOU'D
BETTER
COME
IN.



IT'S
AN OLD
RUN-
DOWN
SHACK.

THERE'S
LOTS
OF
THEM
AROUND
HERE.



FOR WHATEVER REASON, THOUGH, THIS BUILDING DIDN'T SUFFER ANY DAMAGE.

THE OTHER ROW HOUSES ARE FINE, TOO. IT'S STRANGE BECAUSE THEY WERE IN TERRIBLE SHAPE TO BEGIN WITH.



WE'RE HOME.



COME ON IN.

YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE, UNLIKE OUR OLD PLACE, IT'S NOT INFECTED.

Infected



KIRIE... DID YOU BRING OVER A GUEST?











DAMN
BRATS! I
THOUGHT WE
TIED THEM
UP!

THEY
MUST
HAVE
GOTTEN
FREE SOME-
HOW!

WE
CAN'T
LIFT
A
FINGER
AGAINST
THEM!

EVER
SINCE
THEY
WERE
ORPHANED
BY THE
HURRICANE



THEY'VE
BEEN
ROAMING
THE STREETS,
BLOWING
DOWN
ALL THE
HOUSES
THEY
SEE.

KIDS
LIKE
THEM
HAVE
DESTROYED
HALF
THIS
TOWN!

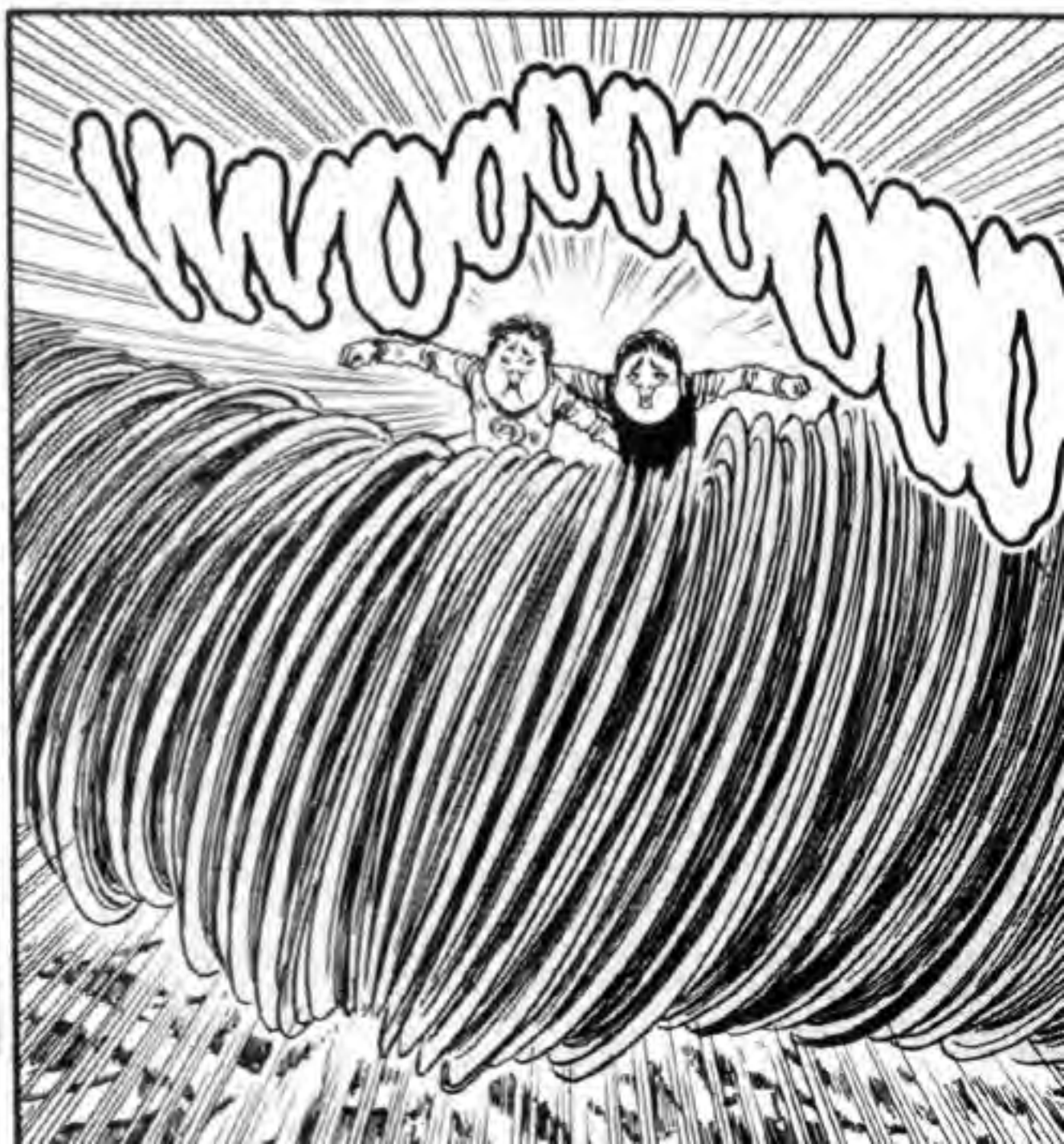


WE CAN
BRING THIS
DUMP DOWN IN
A SECOND.

YEAH.



FWOO!





THAT'S WEIRD...
IT WON'T FALL
APART.

EVEN
THOUGH
IT'S
ALL
RUINED?



GOD
DAMN
HOUSE!

THEN
TAKE
THIS!!



HERE WE GO!!









ARRGH!
NO WAY!



HOW
DID THEY
LEARN
TO DO
THAT?

LOOK
AT
THAT!



THEY'RE
WHEELING
AROUND
LIKE
BUTTERFLIES!

KYA
HA
HA
HA!

KURŌZU-
CHO...
WAS
GOING
MAD.

CHAPTER

15

GA
OS







YEEAAHHH!

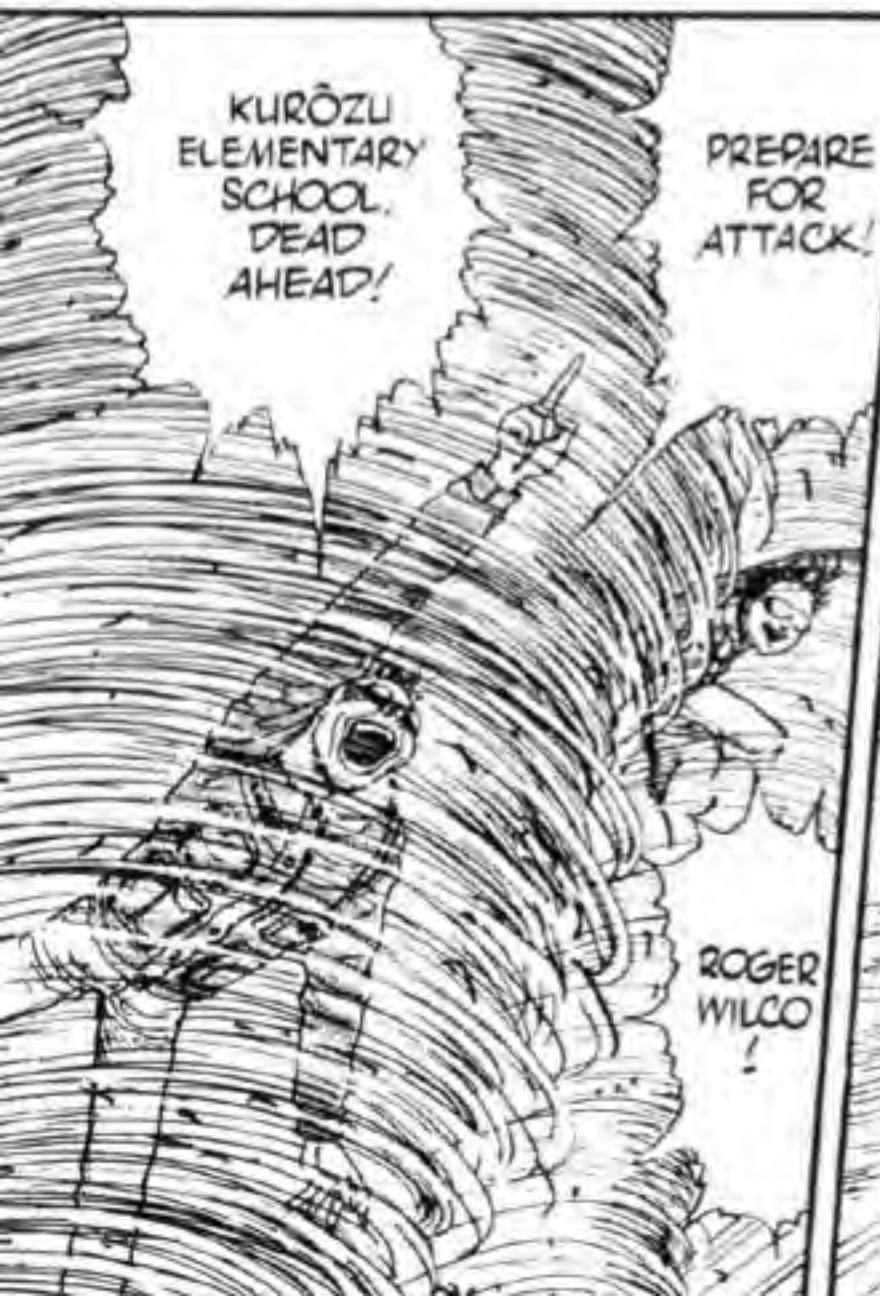


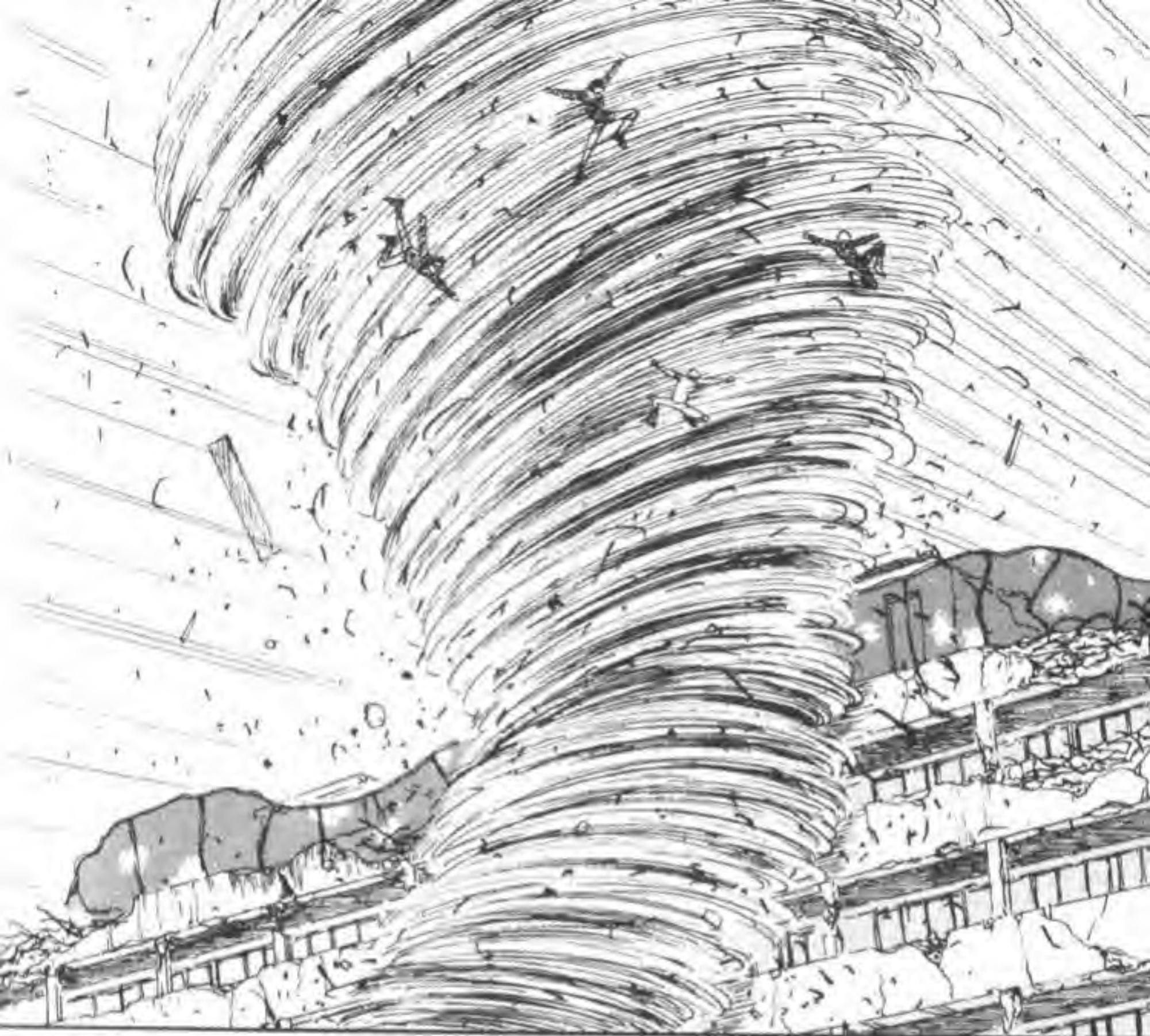
KURÔZU
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL.
DEAD
AHEAD!

PREPARE
FOR
ATTACK!

ROGER
WILCO
!

UNITE
AND
ATTACK
!









ARRGH,
I'M
HUNGRY!



IT'S
GETTING
HARDER
TO
FIND
FOOD.



HOW
DO *THEY*
GET THE
ENERGY
TO DO
THAT?



APPARENTLY
THEY STEAL
FOOD SHIPMENTS
FROM RELIEF
AGENCIES
AND RESCUE
TEAMS.

THEY'RE
STILL
COMING,
AREN'T
THEY?
NO ONE
OUTSIDE
REALIZES
YOU CAN'T
GET OUT...



I
WISH
I *WAS*
IN
THEIR
GANG!

AT
LEAST
THEN
WE'D HAVE
SOMETHING
TO EAT!



I TOLD
YOU,
DON'T
BE
STUPID.



BUT WE'RE
STARVING!
WHILE WE'RE
SNEAKING
AROUND LIKE
SNAILS, TRYING
NOT TO MAKE
ANY WHIRL-
WINDS...

THEY'RE
DOING
WHATEVER
THEY
WANT!

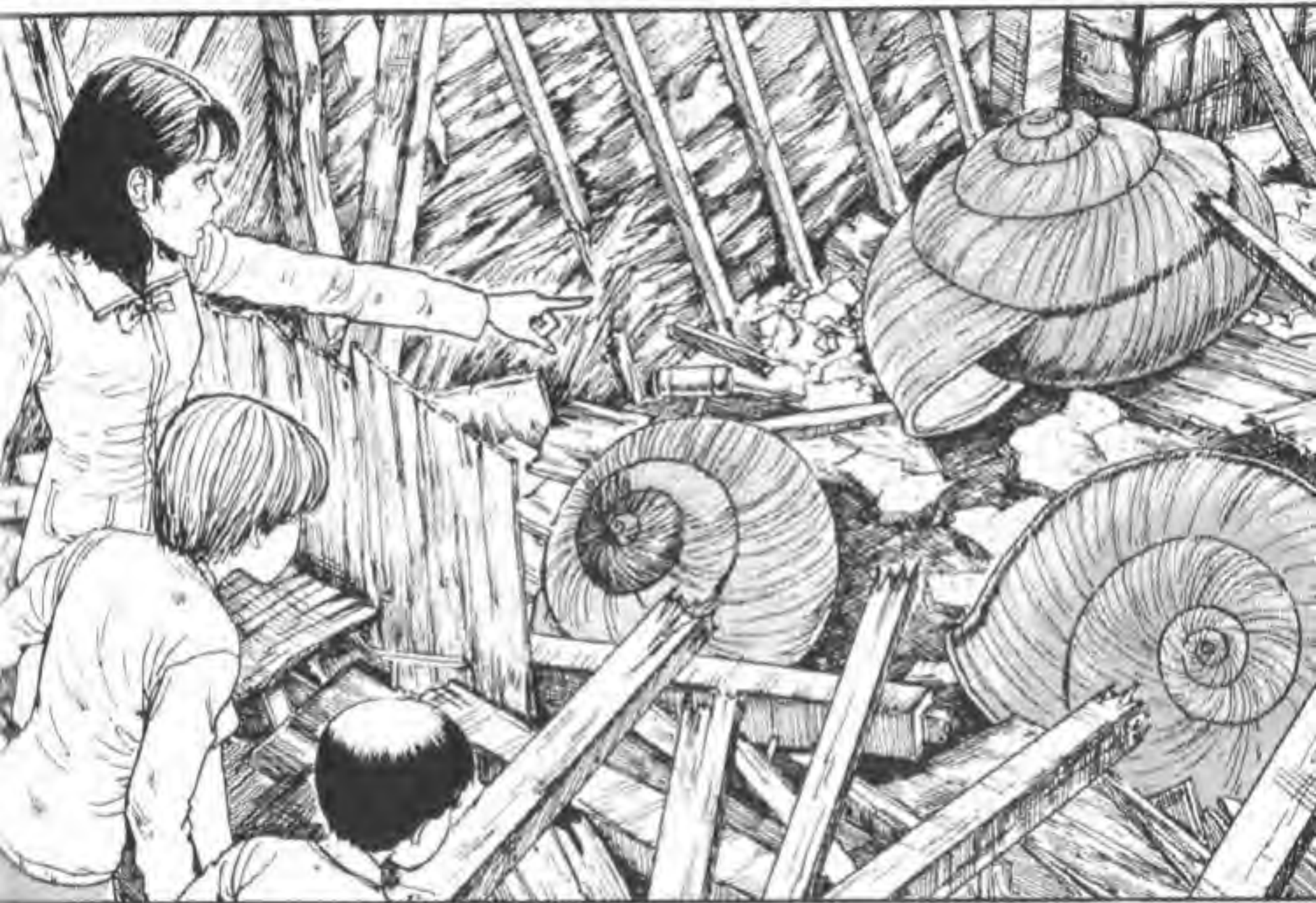


SHUT
UP,
MITSUO!

KEEP
QUIET
OR
YOU'LL
MAKE A
TORNADO!



CHIE...?!





Oh,
MY
GOD!



THEY
USED
TO BE
HUMAN.

THE
THINGS
THAT
HAPPEN
IN
THIS
TOWN
TURN
SOME
PEOPLE
INTO
SNAILS.



BUT...
IT'S BEEN
A WHILE
SINCE I'VE
SEEN
THEM.

I
WONDER
WHAT
BROUGHT
THEM
OUT.



WHAT?



GET
OUT
OF
HERE!
THERE'S
NO
ROOM!

BUT
WE WERE
LIVING
HERE
BEFORE
YOU
PEOPLE
EVEN
CAME!

KIRIE...
KIRIE!
COME OVER
HERE!

MOM!

GOD, IT'S
GETTING
CROWDED..

THESE
OLD
SHACKS
ARE THE
ONLY
BUILDINGS
THE WHIRL-
WINDS
CAN'T
DESTROY.

AND
WE CAN
MOVE
AND TALK
NORMALLY
WITHOUT
BRINGING
THE PLACE
DOWN ON
OUR HEADS.

IT MUST
BE THE
SAME IN
THE OTHER
ROW
HOUSES.

WHAT'S
THIS...?

BUT
HOW
MANY
PEOPLE
CAN
IT
HOLD?

IF
THIS
GOES
ON
WE'LL BE
PACKED
LIKE
SARDINES.





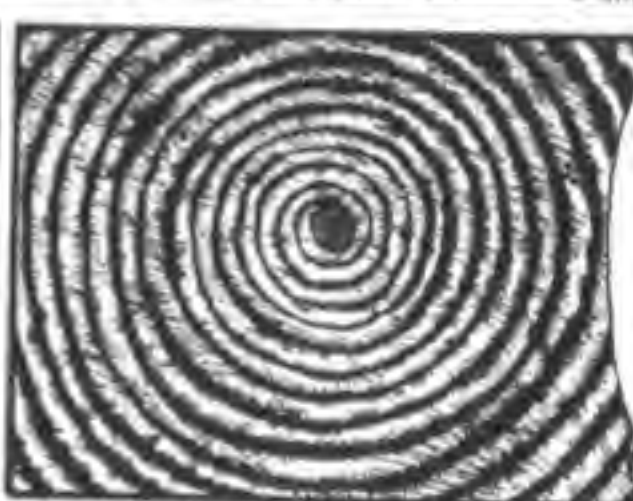
WHAT IS IT?



IT LOOKS LIKE A MAP OF KURŌZU-CHO.



THAT'S MIDORIYAMA-SHI UP IN THE CORNER... BUT THE REST'S TOO BLURRY TO READ...



AND WHERE WE ARE... THEY DREW THIS...



DAD... TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!



MM...

Ahmm...



MOM... I'M WORRIED ABOUT DAD.

I KNOW.



HEY!
THROW
THAT
UP
HERE!

I'M THE
ONE WHO
FOUND
IT, YOU
THIEVES!



...



I
CAN'T
TAKE
MUCH
MORE
OF
THIS...

EVERY-
ONE'S
ON
EDGE.



I'M HUNGRY!
YOU'RE FROM THAT
RED CROSS TEAM,
DON'T YOU HAVE
ANY MORE
FOOD?

I'M
SORRY,
WE RAN
OUT
YESTERDAY.



THEN WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
DOING HERE?
WHY DON'T
YOU JUST
GET THE
HELL OUT?

TH-
THAT'S
TOTALLY
UNCALLED
FOR!

please
stop...



MAD...
MAD...

THIS
TOWN'S
GOING
MAD...



YOU! ALL YOU
DO IS MUMBLE
TO YOURSELF!
WELL IT'S MAKING
ME FUCKING
DEPRESSED!

DO
YOU
HEAR
ME?





ARRGH!

WHAT
ARE WE
GONNA
DO
NOW?



WE'LL
FIND
ANOTHER
ROW HOUSE
...SOME
OTHER
SPACE...

BUT
IT'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE
CROWDED
EVERY-
WHERE!



WE
CAN'T
STAY
HERE
ANY
LONGER.

WE
HAVE
TO GET
OUT
OF
THIS
TOWN.



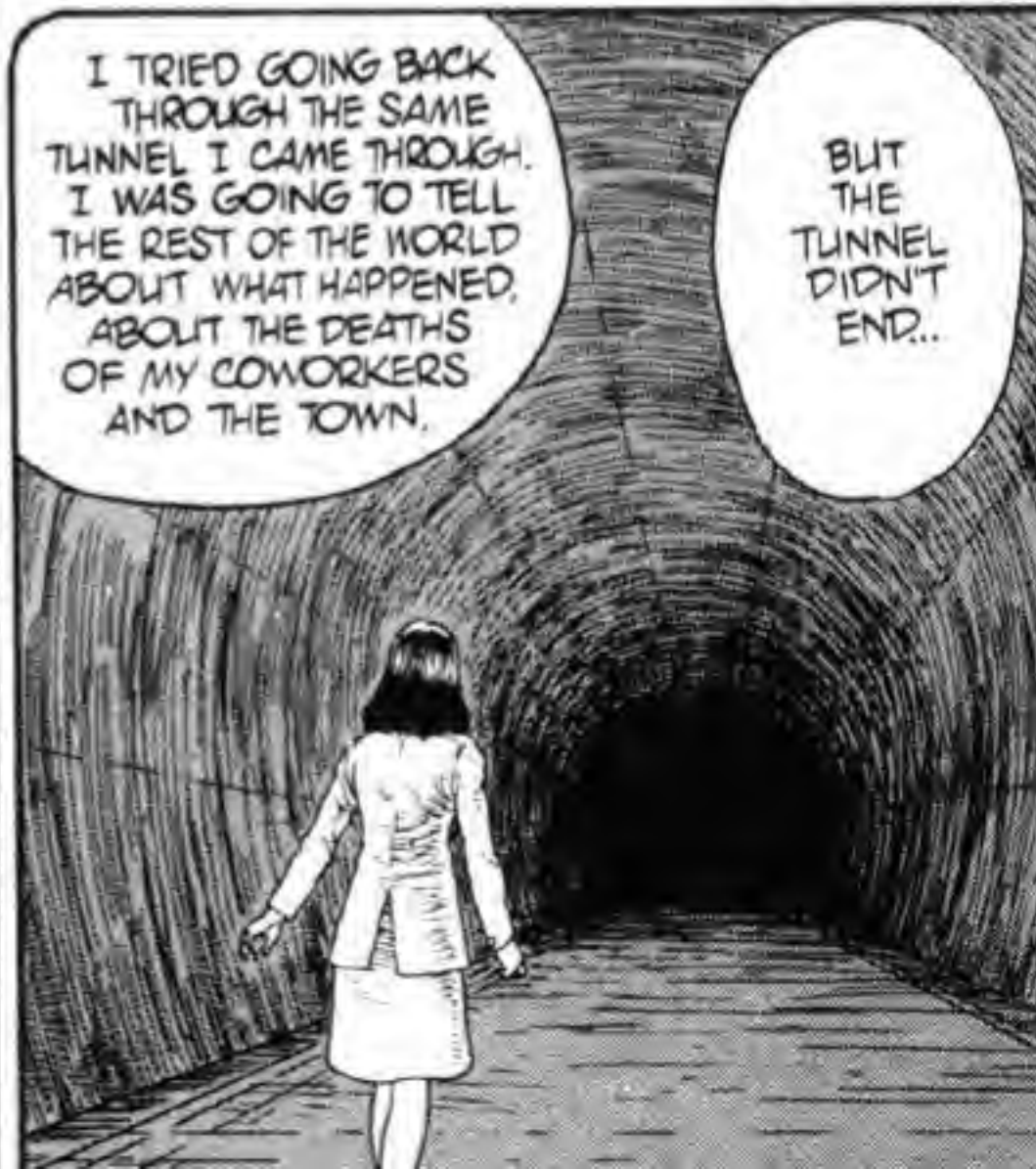
BUT
EVERYONE
SAYS
IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.

YOU
TRIED
IT
ALREADY,
DIDN'T
YOU?



YES...

...JUST
ONCE.



I TRIED GOING BACK
THROUGH THE SAME
TUNNEL I CAME THROUGH.
I WAS GOING TO TELL
THE REST OF THE WORLD
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED,
ABOUT THE DEATHS
OF MY COWORKERS
AND THE TOWN.

BUT
THE
TUNNEL
DIDN'T
END...



THE SPIRAL WON'T LET US GO. IT'S JUST LIKE SHUICHI SAID ALL ALONG.

BUT THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO ESCAPE!



IT'S OKAY.

I'M NOT LEAVING.



I WANT TO MAKE CERAMICS IN THIS TOWN.

I WANT TO REBUILD MY FURNACE AND WORK ON MY ART... THE ART OF THE SPIRAL.



FOR THAT, I NEED THE MUD FROM THE BOTTOM OF DRAGONFLY POND.

THE MUD FROM DRAGONFLY POND? BUT DEAR... DRAGONFLY POND'S JUST A WHIRLPOOL. YOU CAN'T DIG UP MUD THERE ANYMORE.













HOW ABOUT YOU PRETTY LADIES?

THIS STUFF'S REAL GOOD. KEEPS YOU MOVING. JUST THINK OF IT AS ESCARGOT.



BUT THAT'S NOT ESCARGOT... THEY'RE HUMAN...



DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?

WHY DON'T YOU GIRLS STAY HERE, AND YOU CAN EAT LIKE THIS EVERY NIGHT.



WE'RE NOT JOINING YOUR GANG.



GANG?



COME ON. WE'LL TEACH YOU TO FLY. REMEMBER THOSE LITTLE KIDS WHO DID IT FIRST?

"THEY'RE FLYING AROUND LIKE BUTTERFLIES!"
HA HA!
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?



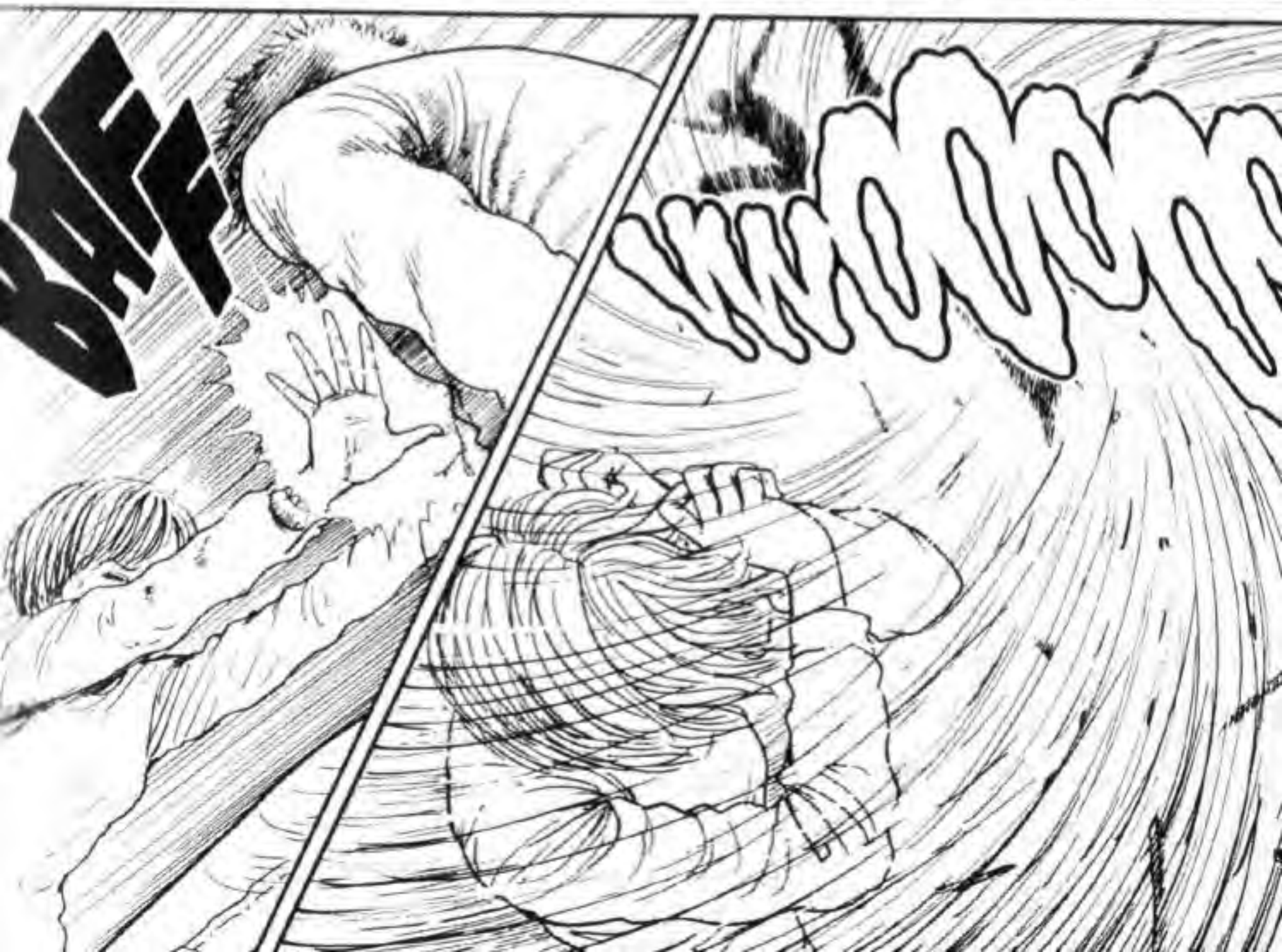
WE'RE MORE LIKE DRAGON-FLIES.

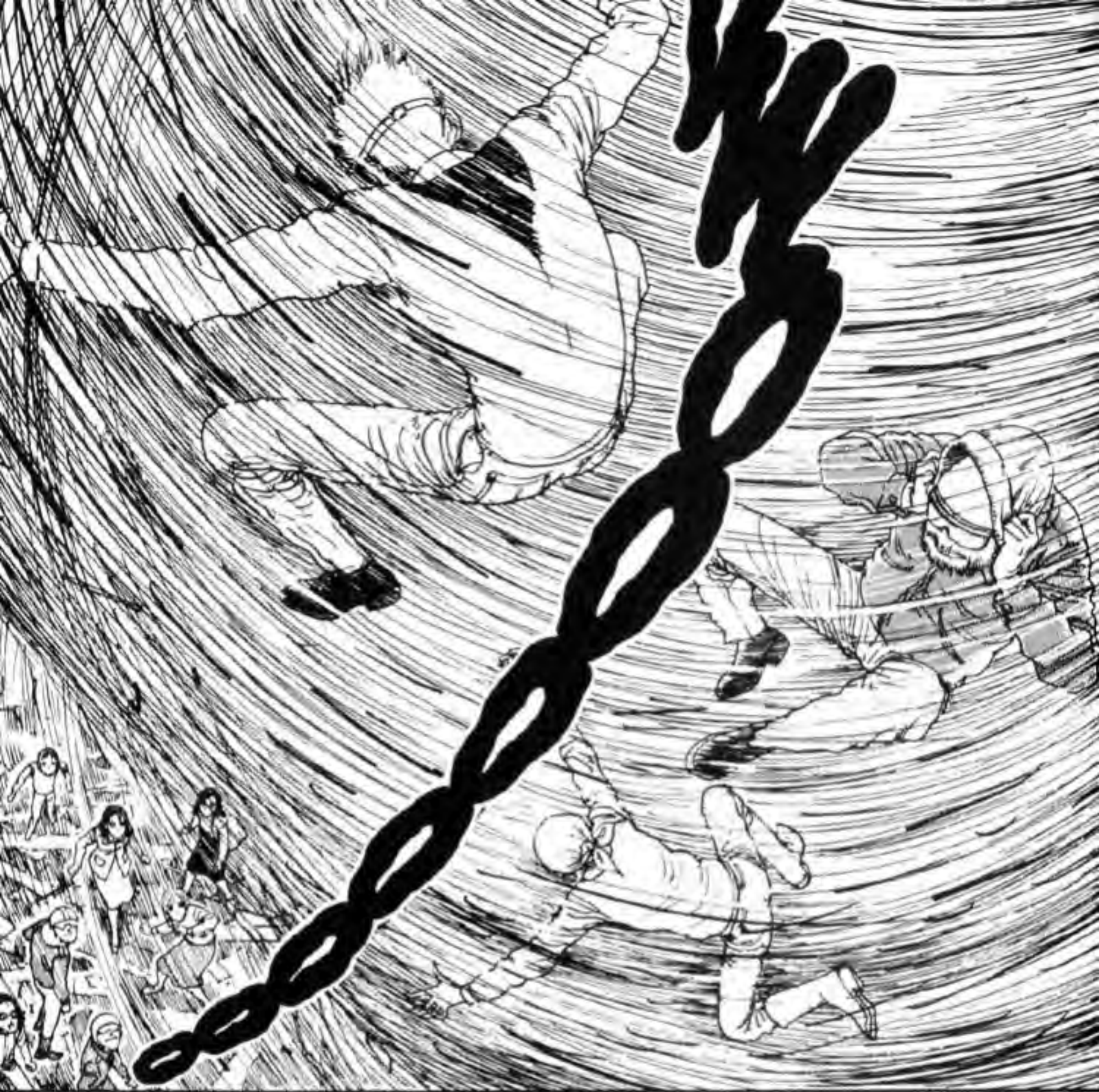
DRAGON-FLIES EAT MEAT.

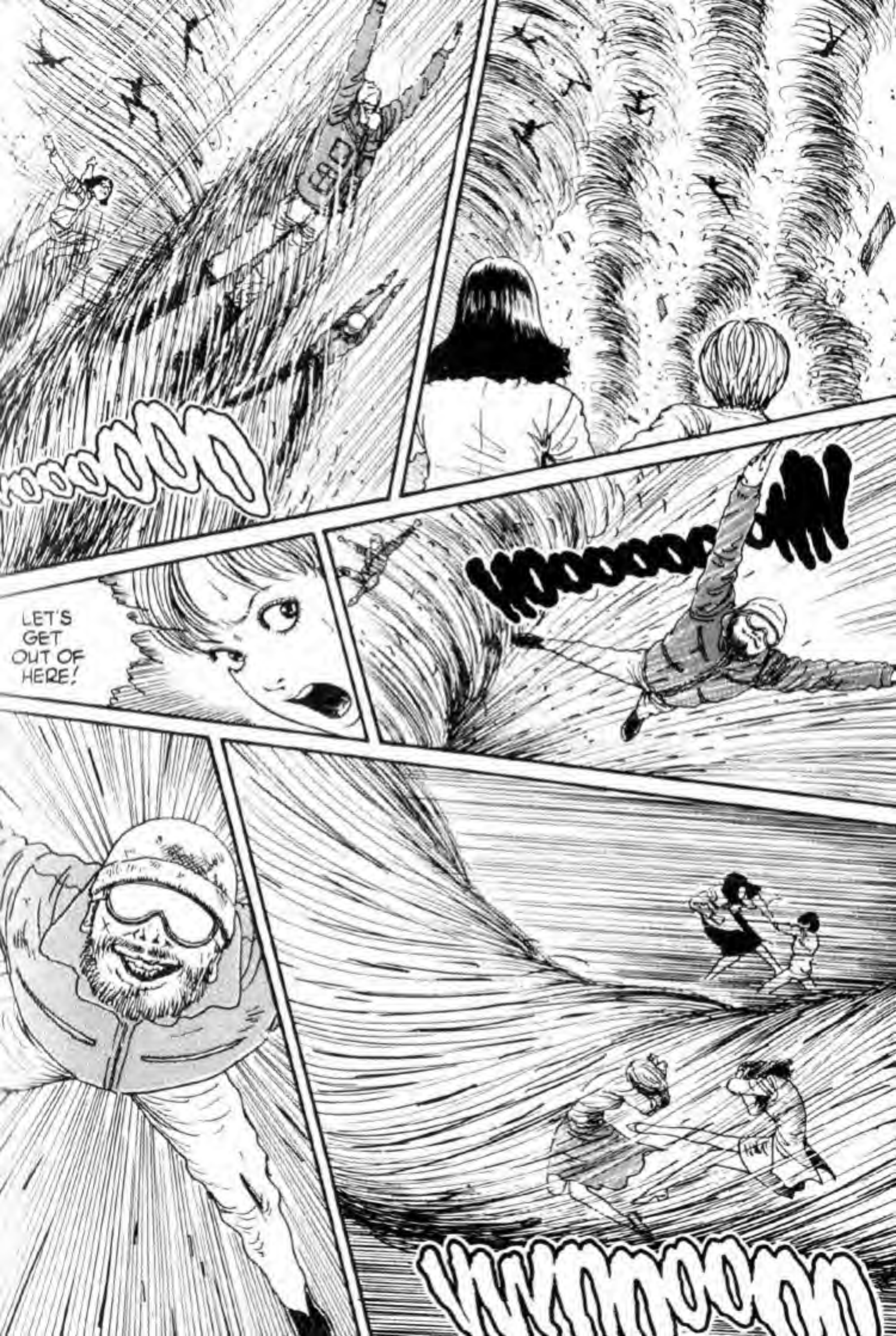


WE'LL TEACH YOU THINGS...









oooooooo

LET'S
GET
OUT OF
HERE!

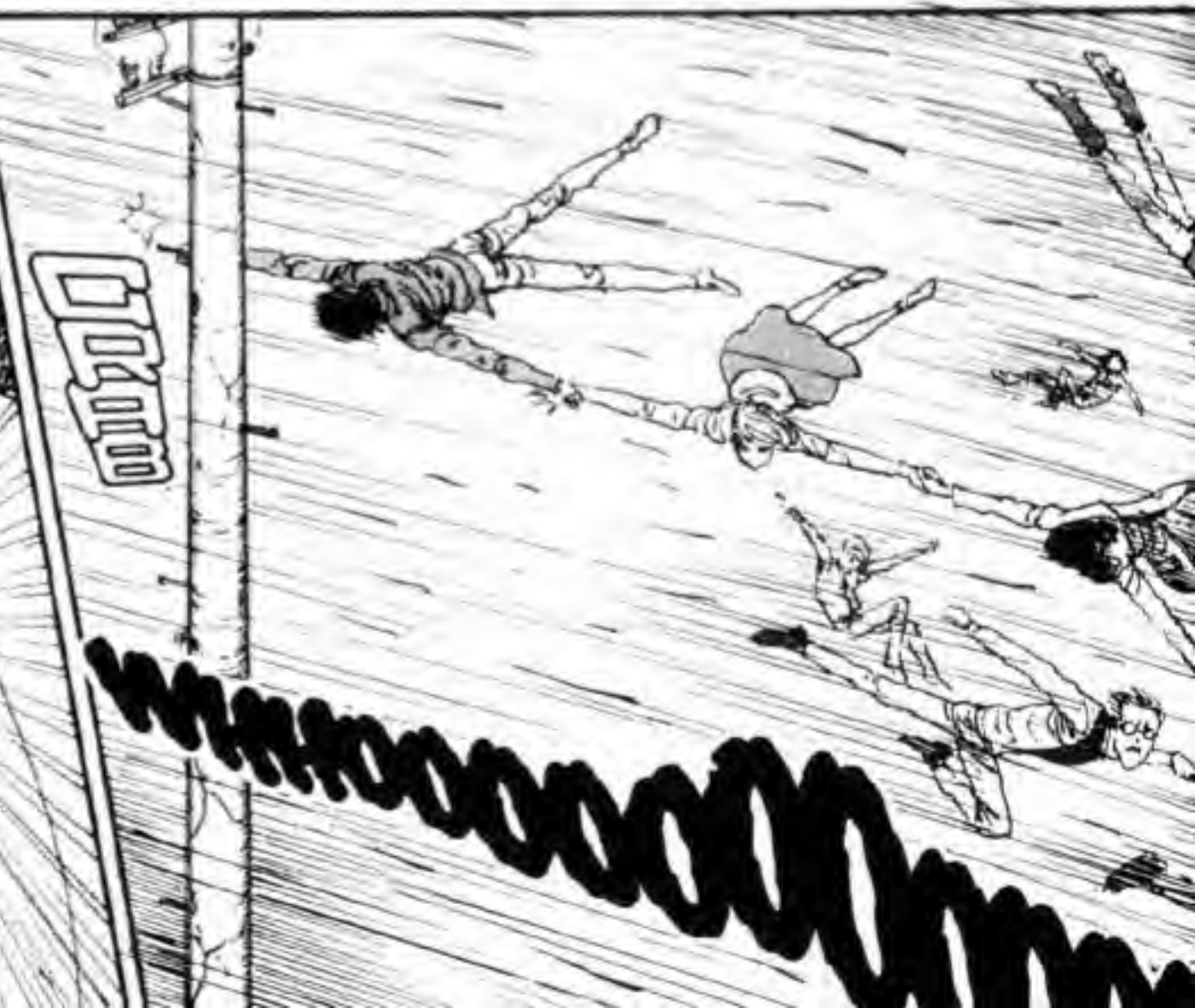
ooooooooom!

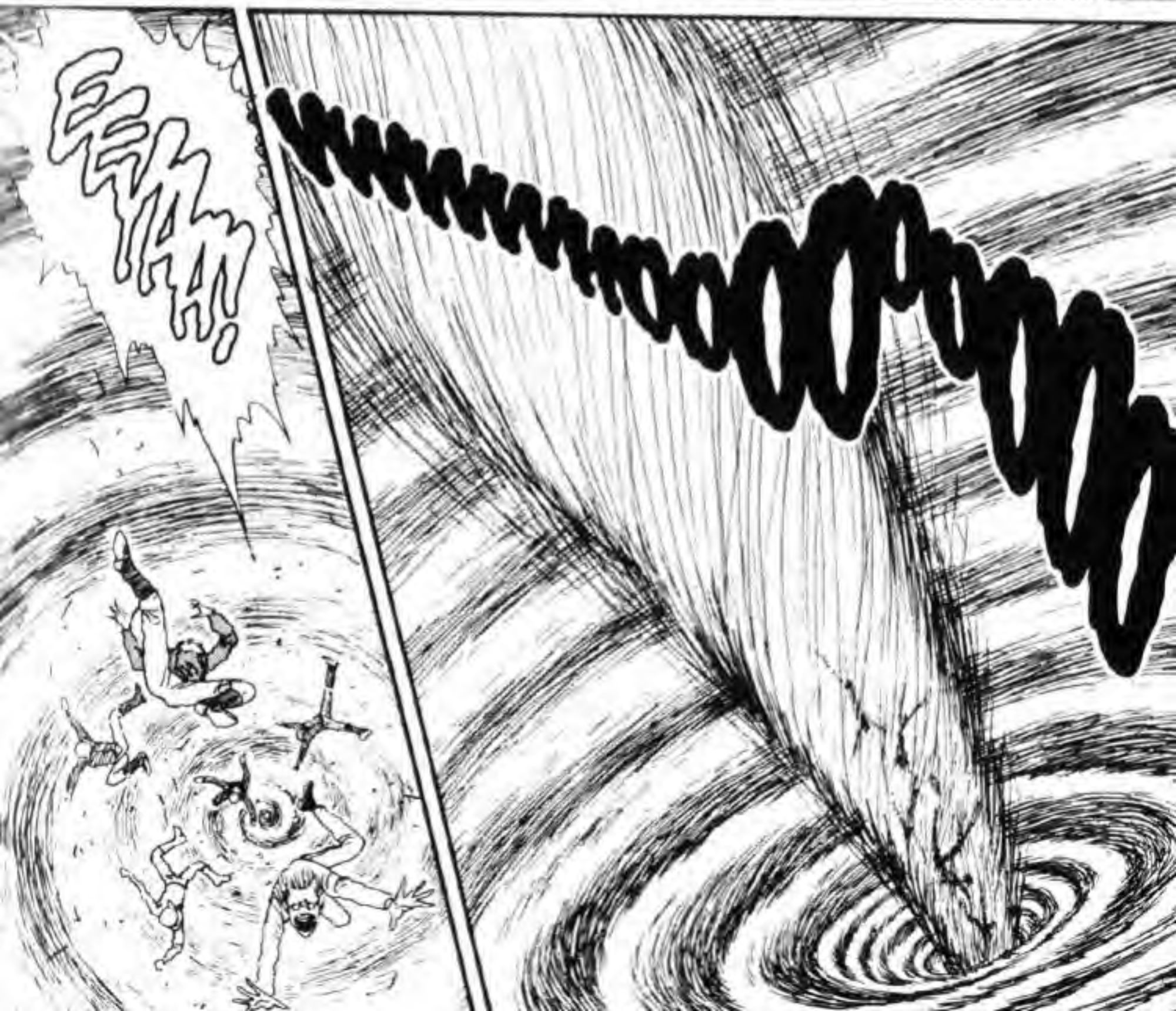
ooooooooom





WE'LL
BE
SUCKED
INTO
DRAGONFLY
POND!





CHAPTER

16

ERON



FROM THE
OUTSIDE
WORLD,
PEOPLE
STILL
POURED
INTO
KURÖZU-
CHO...

SLOWLY...

ONLY
TO FIND
THEMSELVES
TRAPPED
IN
THE
RUINS.

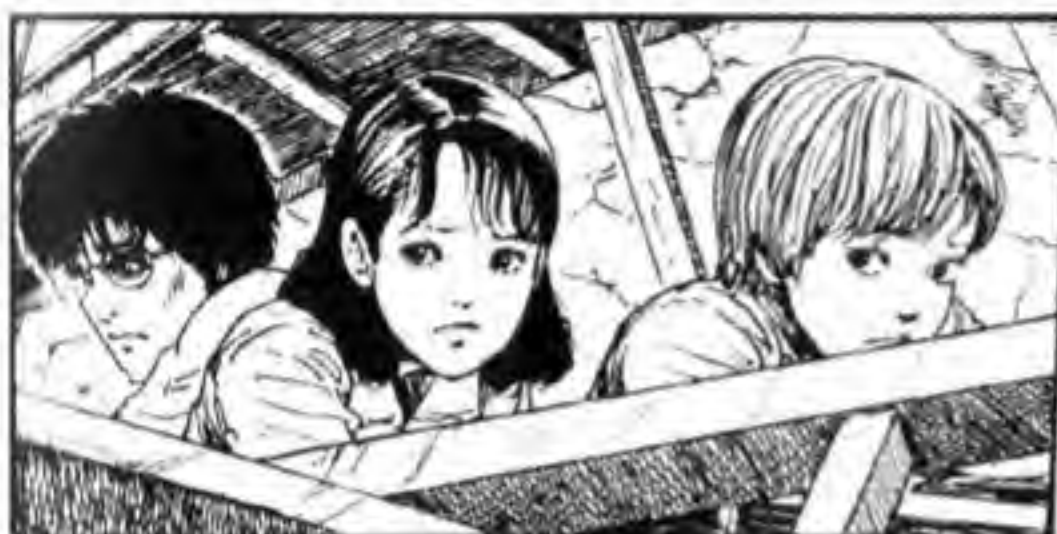
WALK
SLOWLY.

THE
NUMBER OF
WHIRLWINDS
INCREASED
RAPIDLY,
MAKING
THE TOWN
ALL THE
MORE
DANGEROUS.

IT'S
COMING.
**GET
DOWN!**

AARGH

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA





I'VE TRIED OVER
AND OVER TO ESCAPE
...TO JUST TURN
AROUND AND WALK IN
A STRAIGHT LINE...

BUT
NOTHING
WORKS...



THAT'S
RIGHT.

NO
MATTER
WHICH
ROAD
YOU
TAKE,
YOU
END
UP
BACK
HERE.



I'M GOOD
WITH
DIRECTIONS.
IT'S NOT
NATURAL...
IT'S AS IF
SPACE IS
TURNED
INSIDE
OUT.

TH...
THAT'S
TRUE.



I
TRIED
GOING
THROUGH
THE
TUNNEL.

I
SHOULD
HAVE
KNOWN
SOMETHING
WAS
WRONG
BECAUSE
I COULDN'T
SEE THE
LIGHT
AT THE
END.



THEN
THE TUNNEL
STARTED
TO TWIST
LIKE A
STRANGE
SPIRAL
GOING DOWN
INTO THE
DARKNESS.

I FELT
LIKE I
WAS GOING
TO FALL
INTO IT...
I HAD TO
CRAWL TO
MAKE MY
WAY
BACK.



I'D BEEN
TELLING
MYSELF
THAT IT WAS
JUST ME...
THAT
IT WAS
IMPOSSIBLE.





THE SEA HAD TURNED INTO A GIGANTIC WHIRLPOOL, SWALLOWING THE RAFT RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES.



SO I DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET OUT.

BUT CONSIDERING WHAT I'VE HEARD, WE COULD BE WORSE.



YEAH... SOME PEOPLE ARE IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE. THEY'VE GONE CRAZY.



BY THE WAY, WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

ARE YOU IN ONE OF THE ROW HOUSES? IF SO, CAN YOU LET US IN? I HEAR THEY'RE THE ONLY SAFE PLACES LEFT.



NO... ALL THE ROW HOUSES ARE FULL. WE'RE STAYING UNDER A HOUSE THAT'S COLLAPSED.

RIGHT NOW WE'RE ON OUR WAY HOME.



MY
MOTHER
WAS HIT
BY A
WHIRLWIND
AND
CAN'T
MOVE.



MOM, ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT? DOES
IT HURT
AGAIN?



OH, I'M
FINE. I'M
SORRY I
CAN'T GET
UP.

DID
YOU FIND
YOUR
FATHER?



NO.
WE'VE
LOOKED
EVERY-
WHERE...

BUT I
HAVEN'T
SEEN
HIM...



I KNEW
IT! THAT
WHIRLWIND
JUST PICKED
HIM UP! IT JUST
SWALLOWED
HIM!

MOM!
MOM!
I'M
SURE
HE'S
FINE!



SO
YOU
ACTUALLY
LIVE
HERE?

THIS IS
VERY
STRUCTURALLY
UNSTABLE.
A WHIRL-
WIND
COULD
CRUSH IT
EASILY.



THE
ROW
HOUSES
ARE
THE
SAFEST
PLACE.
THERE
MIGHT
BE SOME
SPACE
LEFT.

LET'S
GO
LOOK
FOR
ONE
TOGETHER.



I
WONDER
WHY
THESE
ROW
HOUSES
ARE SO
SAFE.

ALL THOSE
CONCRETE
AND STEEL
BUILDINGS
HAVE BEEN
REDUCED TO
RUBBLE, BUT
THESE RUNDOWN
WOODEN
HOUSES ARE
INTACT...?



YES,
AND THEY
WERE BUILT
A LONG
TIME
AGO.

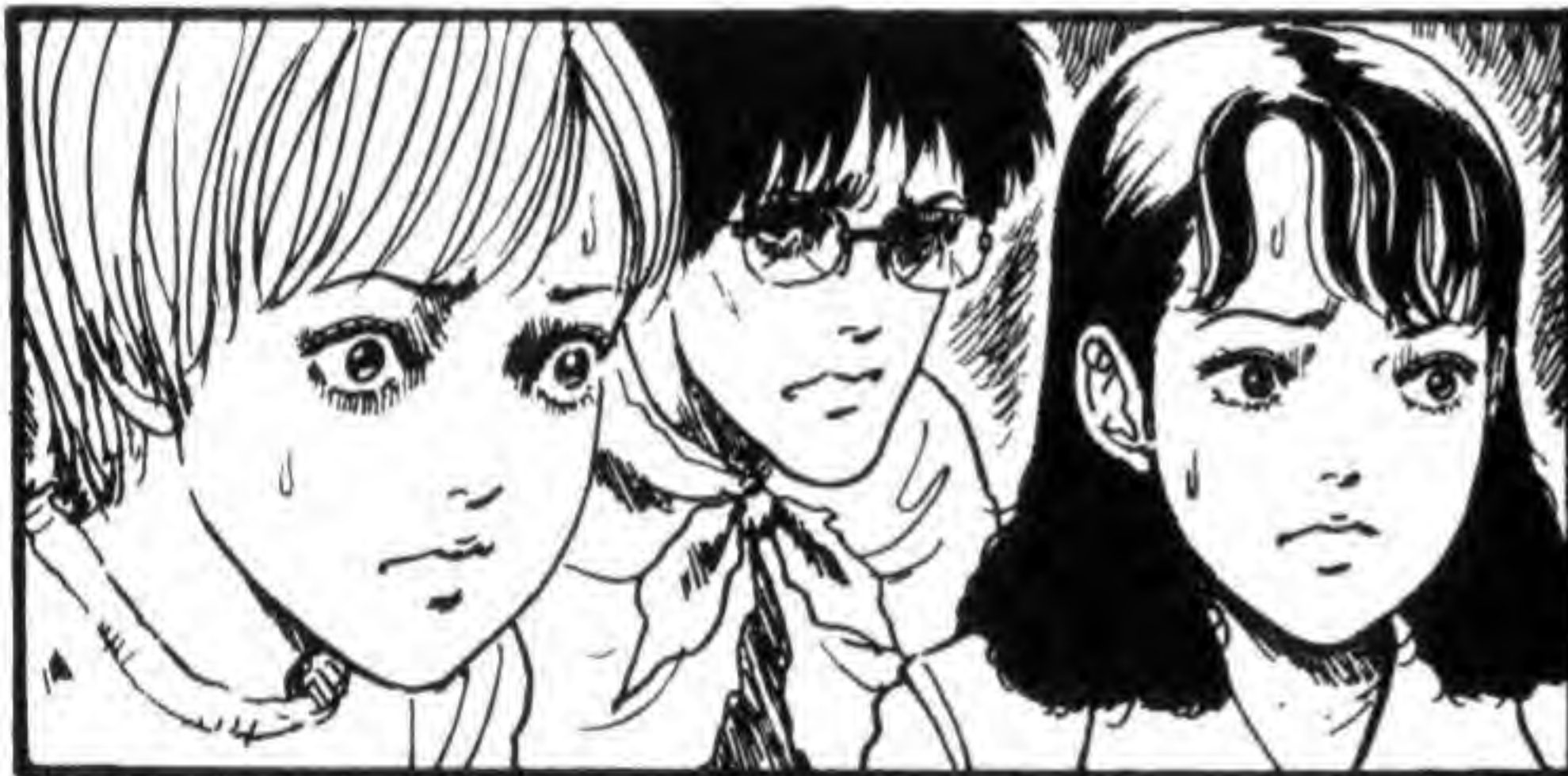
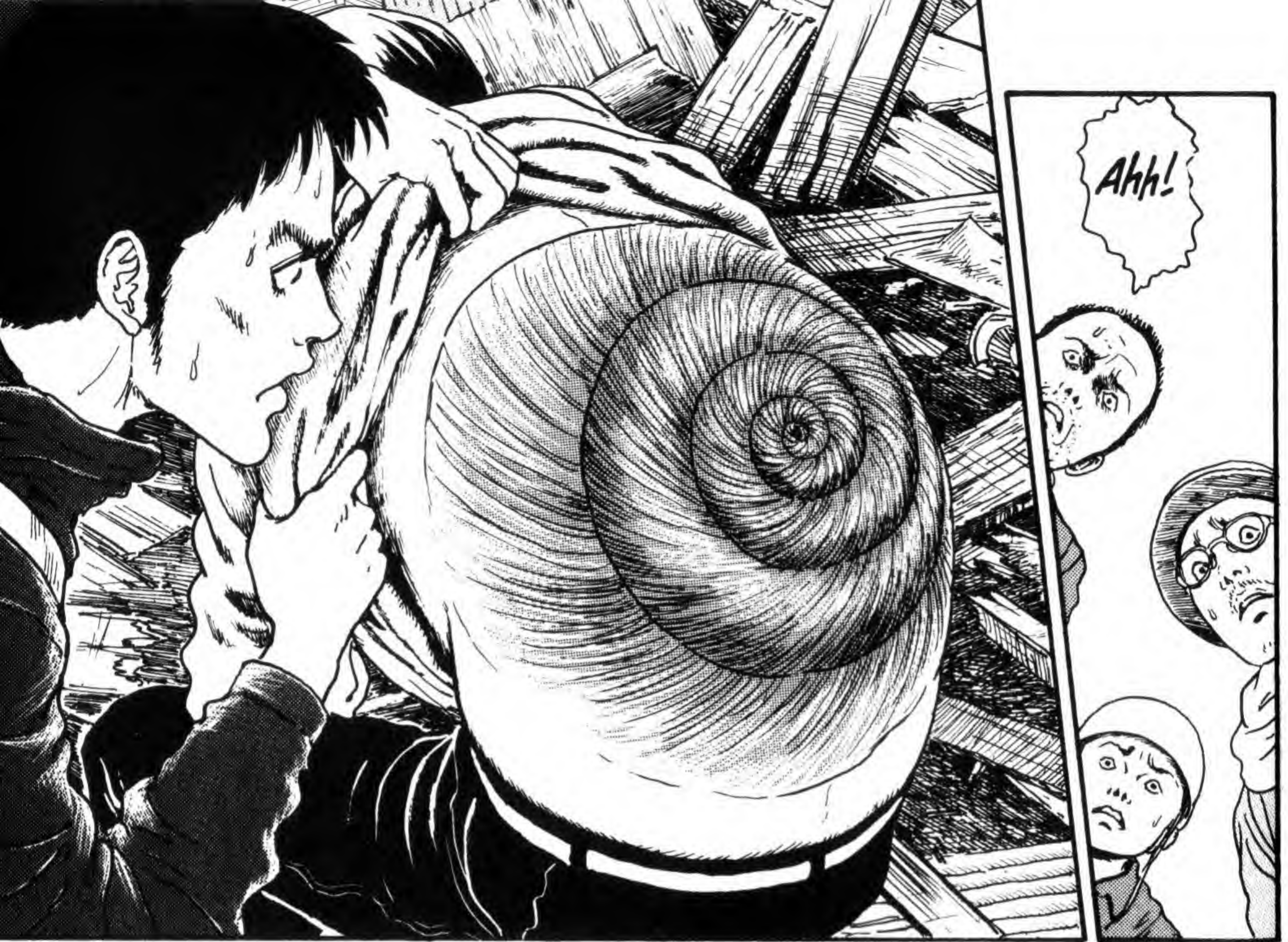
HOW
MANY
ARE
THERE,
ANYWAY?



I'VE
NEVER COUNTED.
THERE'S SOME
IN THE MIDDLE
OF TOWN THAT
WERE RENTED
OUT, BUT THE
ONES ON THE
OUTSKIRTS
ARE MORE
RUINED.

MAYBE
SOME OF
THE
OUTLYING
HOUSES
AREN'T
FULL YET...
I GUESS
THAT'S
WHERE WE
SHOULD
GO.







IN ANY
CASE, WE
HAVE TO FIND
A ROW HOUSE
WITH SPACE
TO SLEEP.

THERE
WE WON'T
HAVE TO
MOVE
SO
SLOWLY.

BUT
HOW SAFE
DO YOU
THINK
THESE
HOUSES
ARE?

I
MEAN, WE
REALLY
DON'T
KNOW
WHAT'S
MAKING
PEOPLE
CHANGE
INTO
SNAILS.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

BUT
YOU
CAN'T
DENY
THAT
THESE
HOUSES
ARE THE
SAFEST
PLACE IN
TOWN RIGHT
NOW.

S-SAY TANIZAKI...
DO YOU THINK
THE SPIRAL
WILL DISAPPEAR
AS LONG AS I'M
INSIDE THE
ROW HOUSE?

I
DON'T
KNOW,
TOGAWA.

I
DON'T
WANT
TO... I
DON'T
WANT
TO!

Shh!
LOWER
YOUR
VOICE!

I-I
DON'T
WANT
TO
TURN
INTO
A
SNAIL.

SOME-
BODY
HELP
ME!

AND
WALK
SOFTLY.



WE
SHOULD
SEE
ONE
SOON.



HERE
IT IS.



LOOKS
LIKE
IT'S
FULL.



PLEASE
LET US
IN!

NO!
IT'S
FULL!
GO
SOMEWHERE
ELSE!



THEY'RE
ALL FULL!
IF WE STAY
OUTSIDE WE
MIGHT TURN INTO
THOSE THINGS!
YOU HAVE TO
HELP US!

WHO
CARES?
**GO
AWAY!**



PLEASE
...PLEASE
...

TOGAWA
...



PLEASE
LET
ME IN.



I'M
TURNING
INTO A
SNAIL!



NO!
GO
AWAY!

WHAT
DO I
CARE IF
YOU
BECOME A
SNAIL OR
NOT?



WHAT
...?

YOU--



I'M
GOING
INSIDE
WHETHER
YOU
LIKE IT
OR
NOT!



OPEN
UP!

OPEN
UP,
YOU
BASTARDS
!



Y-YES...

WE'RE
WITH
YOU,
TOO!



PULL!

HERE
IT
COMES...







ATTACK!

NOW!



THE
DOOR'S
BROKEN
DOWN!
LET'S GO
IN!

Huh?

CRASH



WH-
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



I
TOLD
YOU IT
WAS
FULL..



NO
MATTER
HOW HARD
WE TRIED
TO KEEP
PEOPLE
OUT, THEY
MANAGED TO
SNEAK IN
LATE AT
NIGHT.

AND
THIS
IS THE
RESULT..



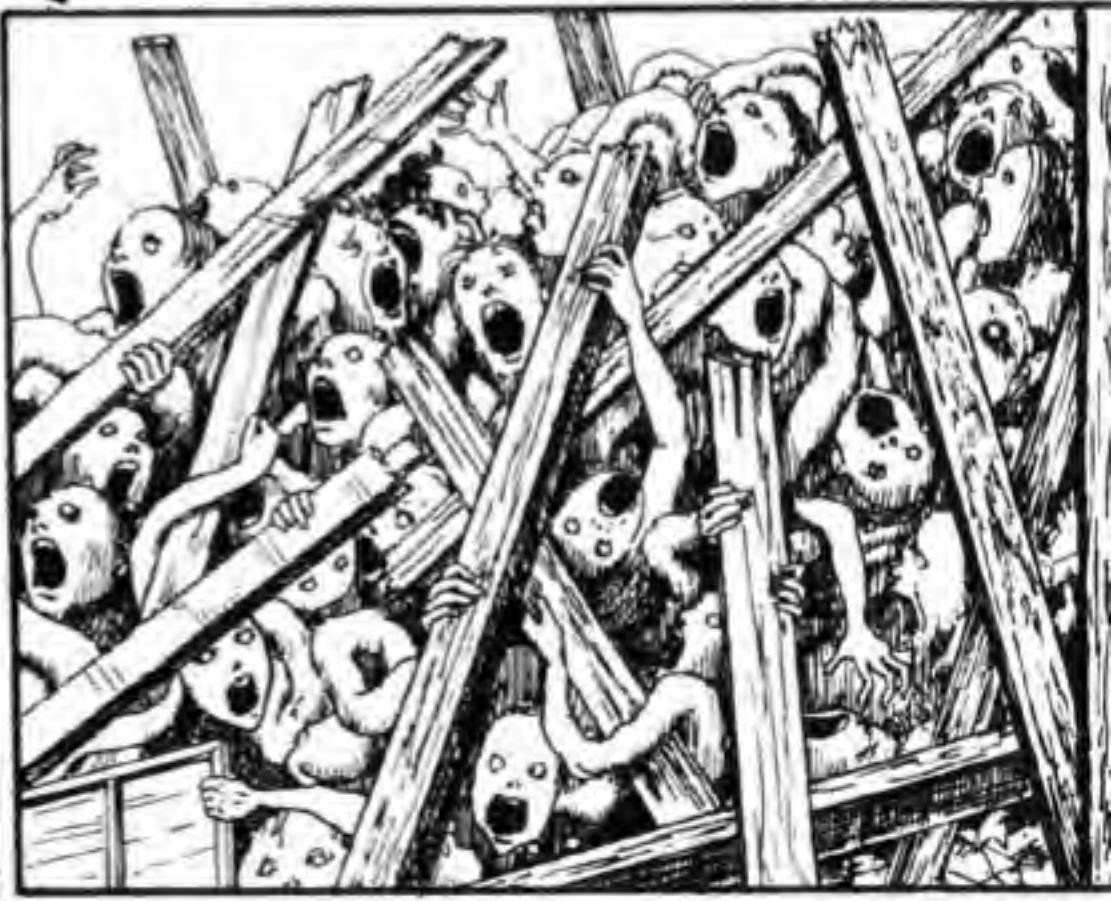
OUR
BODIES
PRESSED
TOGETHER,
AND WE'VE
BECOME
TIED IN
KNOTS...

AND
NOW
WE
CAN'T
BE SEP-
ARATED...











WHAT
ARE
THEY
DOING?



THEY'RE
TRYING TO
COVER
THEIR
EXPOSED
BODIES WITH
THE SCRAP
WOOD.

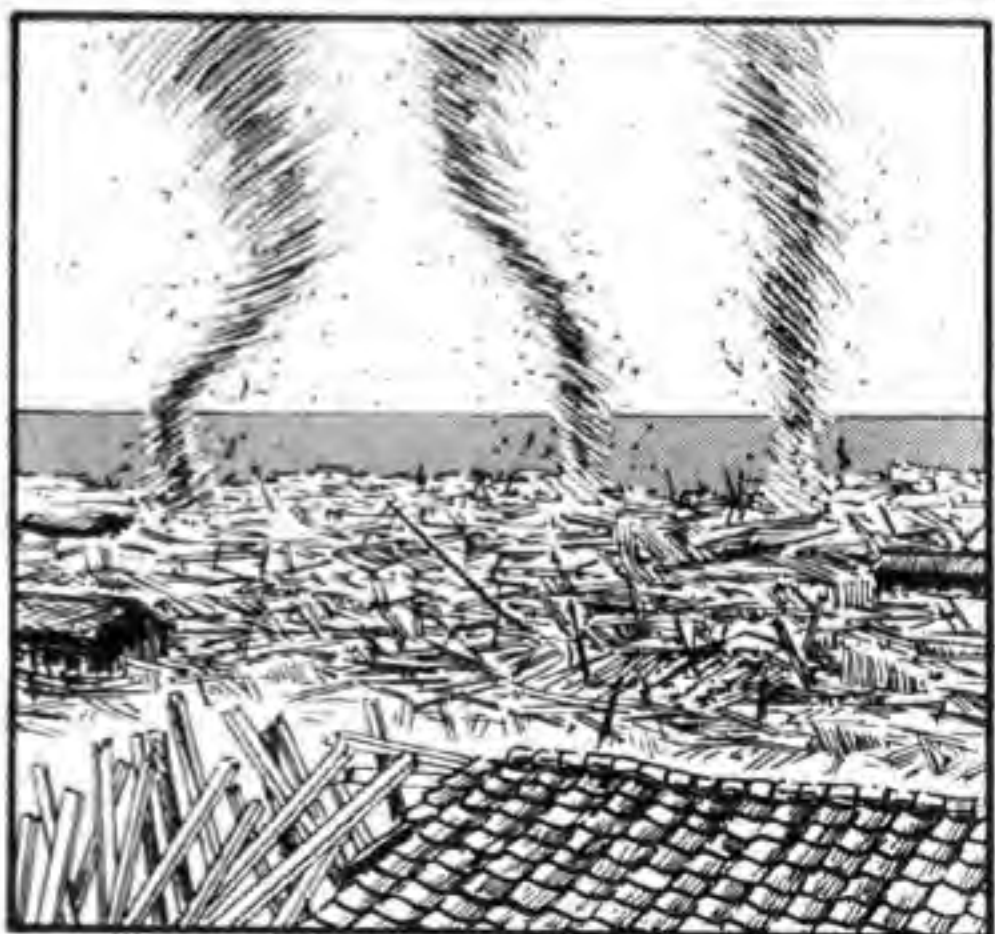


THEY'RE
TRYING
TO ADD
ONTO
THE
HOUSE.



I
SEE...

SO
THERE'S
THAT
OPTION
...







SO WHICH IS IT? TO DIE IN A WHIRLWIND, OR LIVE IN A ROW HOUSE?



THAT'S RIGHT! THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT OF HERE!



WHAT IS IT?

THE SEA! A SHIP! A SHIP'S COMING!



LOOK OVER THERE!









THE NEXT MORNING, WE PARTED WAYS WITH TANIZAKI'S GROUP, AND HEADED BACK TO THE SHACK WHERE MY MOTHER AND MITSUO WERE.

WE BROUGHT THE REMAINING SCRAPS OF MEAT WITH US IN AN OLD PLASTIC BAG.

Hm?

I THOUGHT IT WAS AROUND HERE.

THE SHACK IS GONE!

N-NO...

KIRIE!

KIRIE!
I'M STUCK!

MITSUO!

I'LL GET YOU OUT!

IT WAS A WHIRLWIND, RIGHT?



CHAPTER

17

ESCAPE





WE'RE
GOING.

I'VE
GOT
TO
GET
MITSUO
OUT
OF
HERE...



...BEFORE
HE
TURNS
COMPLETELY
INTO
A
SNAIL.



HE'LL
GO
BACK
TO
NORMAL
ONCE
WE'RE
OUTSIDE
KURÖZU-
CHO.



AFTER
THAT
I'LL
KNOW
THE
WAY
OUT...

AND
SO
I'LL
COME
BACK
FOR
MY
PARENTS.



BUT
HOW
ARE
WE
SUPPOSED
TO
GET
OUT?

WE
CAN'T
GO
BY
THE
ROAD
OR
BY
SEA...



WHAT
ABOUT
THE
HILLS?



THE HILLS? BUT IF IT WERE THAT EASY, SOMEONE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN OUT BY NOW.



MAYBE THERE'S A TRAIL NO ONE'S TRIED.



IT'S NO USE.

THE SPIRAL'S ALL AROUND US.



WE COULDN'T DECIDE WHICH WAY TO GO, BUT WE HAD NO TIME TO DEBATE.



HERE.

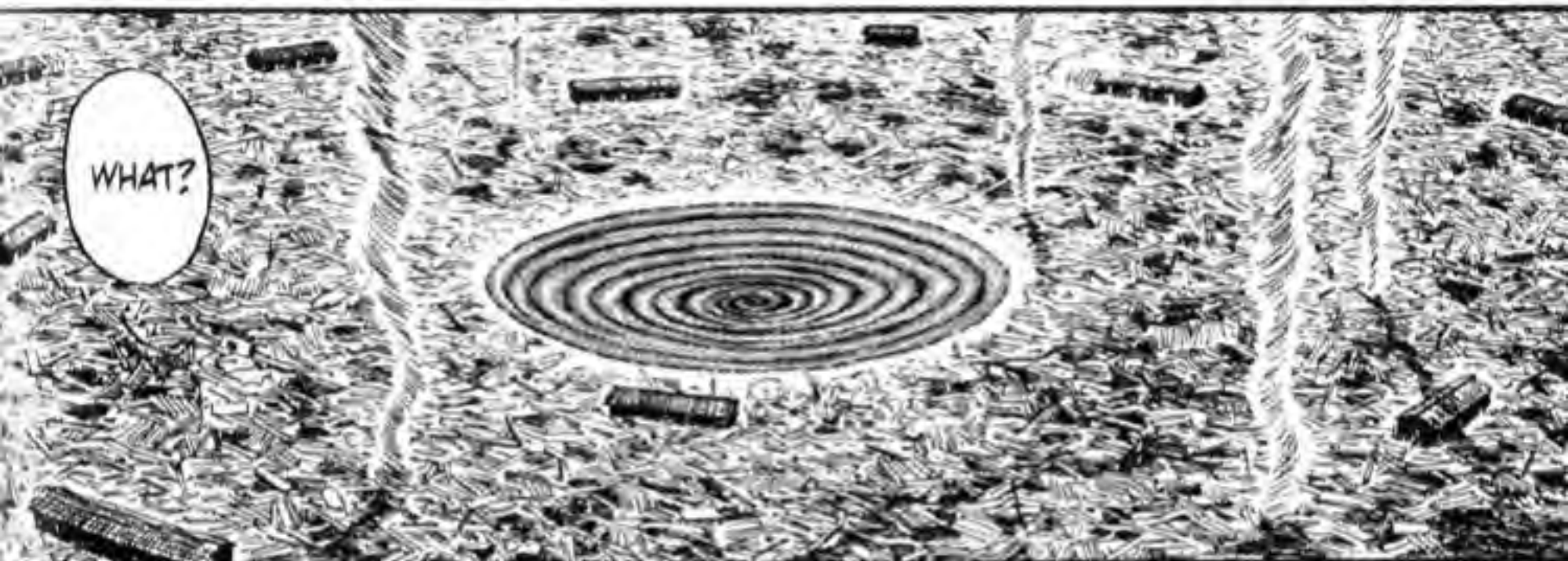


SO WE END UP WITH THE STEEP HILL.

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO TRY IT. NORTH IT IS.

IT'S NO USE...







I'LL BE
DONE BY
THE TIME
YOU COME
BACK! THERE'LL
BE A PLACE
FOR ALL OF
YOU!



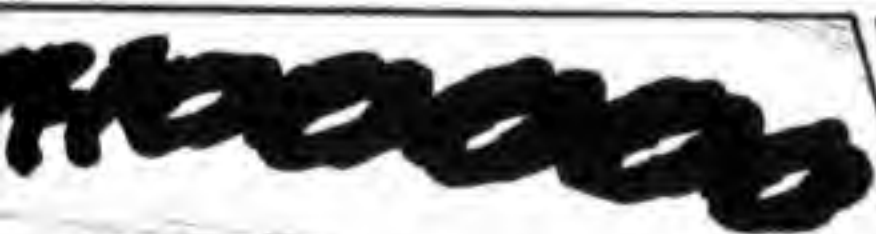


L-LET'S
GO.

WHEN I LOOKED
MORE CLOSELY, I
COULD SEE THAT
MR. TANIZAKI
WASN'T ALONE.



ALL AROUND THE
TOWN, PEOPLE
WERE REBUILDING,
ADDING EXTENSIONS
TO THE HOUSES.





I CAN'T STAND THAT SOUND!

IT JUST PIERCES THROUGH MY EARS!

AARG!
COME ON!

THE POWER HAD BEEN OFF SINCE THE STORM, BUT THE SIREN STILL BLARED.

IT MADE ITS NOISE AT IRREGULAR INTERVALS, AS IF SIGNALING THE ESCAPE OF PRISONERS.



THE GRASS, THE TREES...



HOW LONG HAVE THEY BEEN LIKE THIS?



THE
PATTERN'S
HERE,
TOO.

IT'S
DOWN
TO THE
LEVEL OF
GROWING
CELLS.



WE'VE
BEEN
WALKING
FOR A
WHILE...
HOW LONG
DOES THIS
TRAIL
GO ON?

NOT
MUCH
LONGER...
IT SHOULD
LEAD
TO A
PAVED
ROAD
SOON.



HFF

BUT
IT'S
LONGER
THAN I
REMEMBER.

HFF

KIRIE,
MY BACK
HURTS...
WE'RE
WALKING
TOO
FAST...

HFF



TMP

TMP

LOOKS
LIKE
MORE
VISITORS
TO
KUROZU-CHO.



Ah!



MR. TAKEMOTO?

WHY ARE YOU GOING THIS WAY?

WHAT?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



WE'RE TRYING TO GET OUT OF KURÔZU-CHO.

THERE'S A MOUNTAIN ROAD THIS WAY THAT'S SUPPOSED TO LEAD TO THE NEXT TOWN.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THE ROAD'S THIS WAY.

WE JUST LEFT TOWN TOO.



WHICH TRAIL DID YOU TAKE?

WE TOOK THE TRAIL RIGHT BY KURÔZU HIGH SCHOOL.



WE TOOK THE SAME ONE, BECAUSE WE SAW YOU AHEAD.

SO WE WERE JUST FOLLOWING YOU.



IT SEEMS YOU CAME BACK HERE WITHOUT REALIZING IT.





WHY
DO YOU
HAVE
HIM
TIED
UP?

Huh?



Oh,
you
mean
OKAMOTO?



IT'S
TO MAKE
SURE
HE
DOESN'T
RUN
OFF.

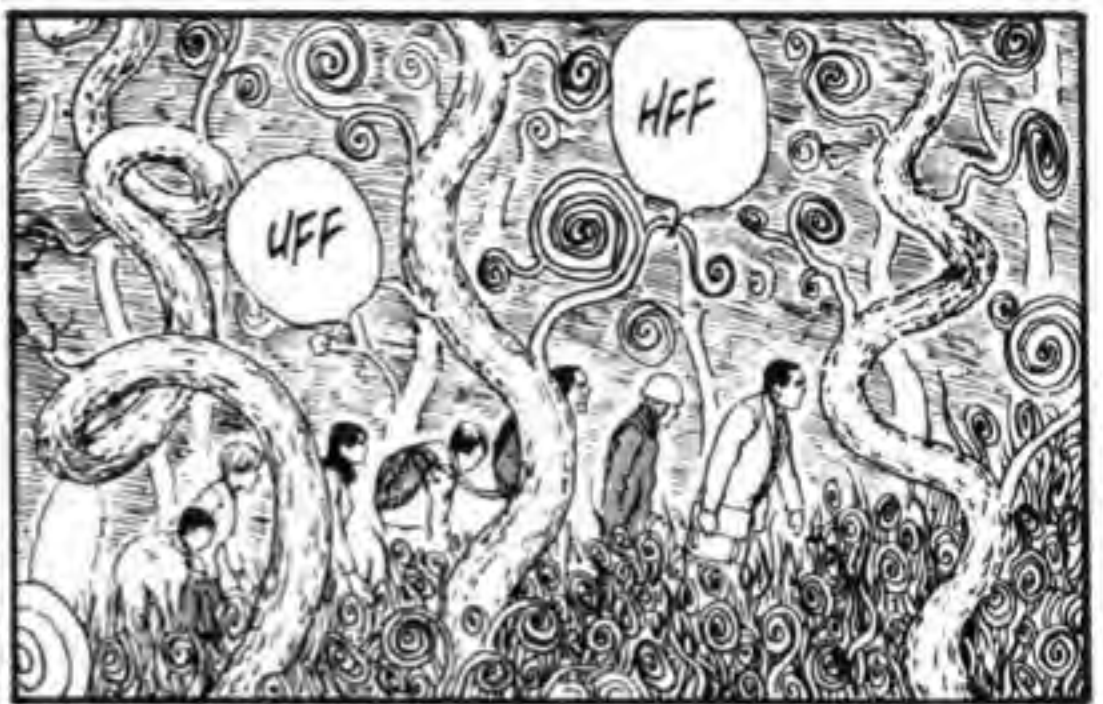
HE'S
THE
MOST
IMPORTANT
MEMBER
OF
OUR
PARTY.



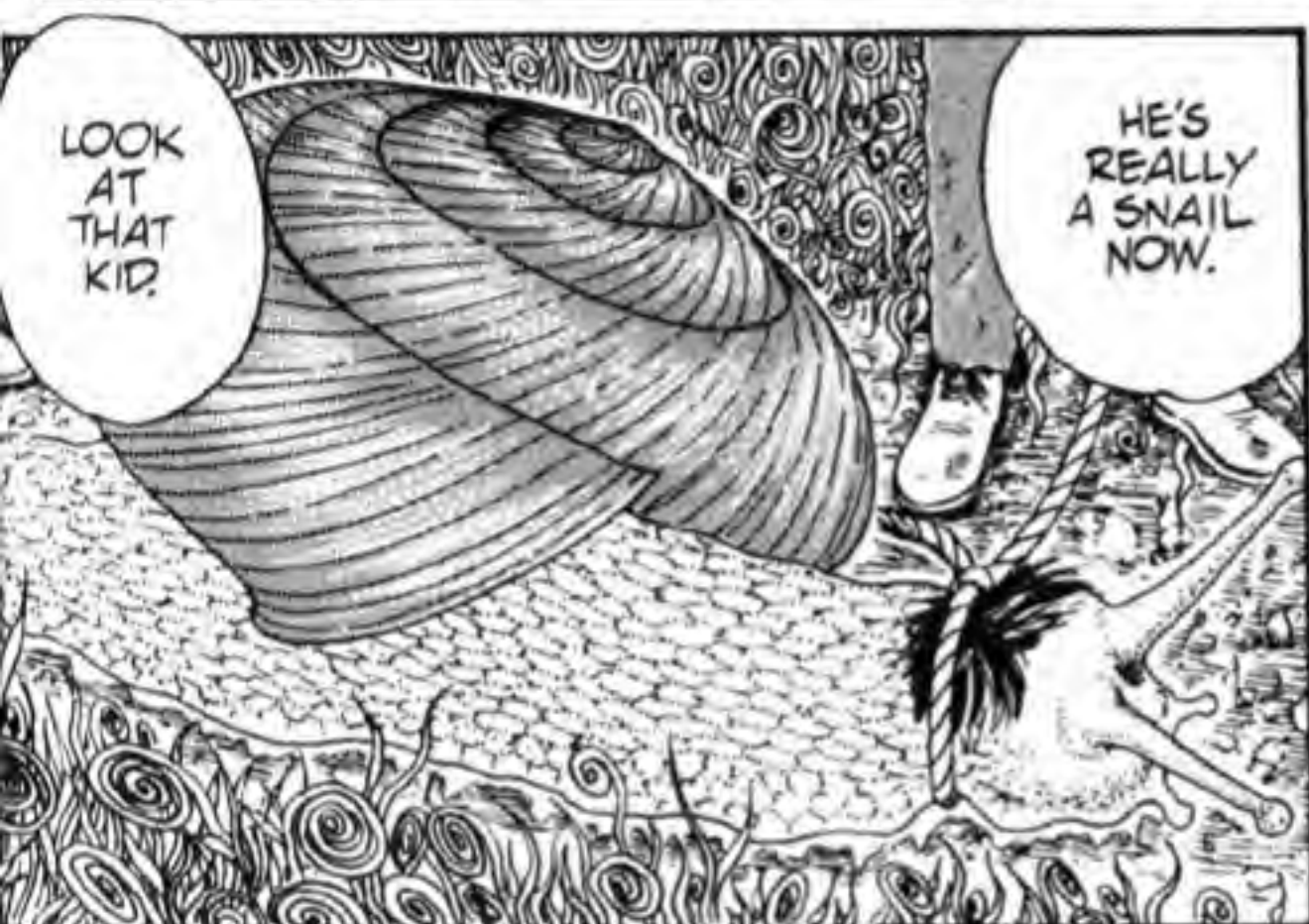
LOOK
AT THAT
SHELL.
AND IT'S
FULL OF
MEAT!

HE'S OUR EMERGENCY
FOOD SUPPLY. WE
DIDN'T KNOW HOW
LONG WE'D BE OUT
HERE. SOON HE'LL
TURN INTO A SNAIL...
AND THEN WE'LL BE
ABLE TO EAT HIM.











HEY!

HE'S
HIDING
FROM
US!



SCREW
IT, LET'S
JUST
CRACK
HIM
OPEN.

STOP
THAT. YOU'LL
MAKE A
WHIRLWIND
IF YOU
THROW
THAT.



WE
DON'T
NEED
THAT.

I'LL
SHOW
YOU
THE
BEST
WAY
TO
EAT
HIM!



DID YOU
KNOW THAT
SOME INSECTS
EAT SNAILS
THIS WAY?



SLIT
ET





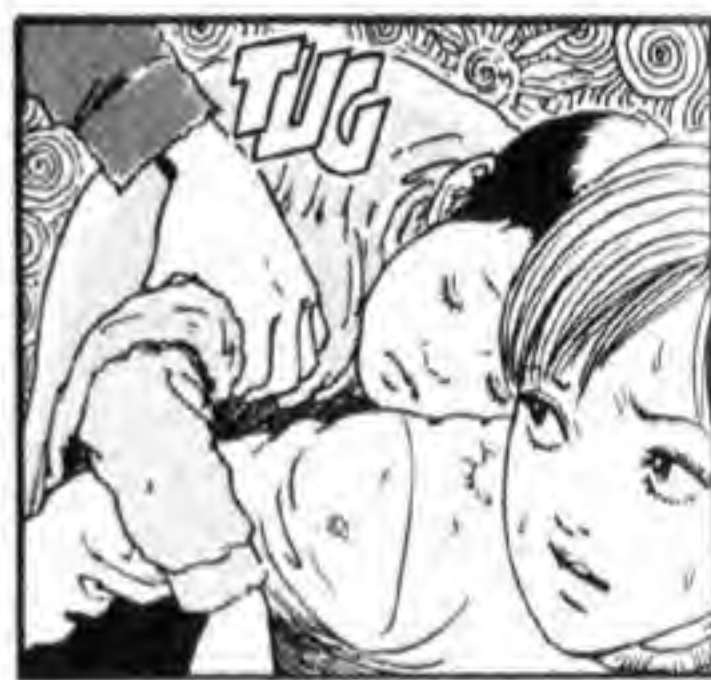


























HEY,
KURŌZU-
CHO'S
THAT
WAY!

ARE
YOU
GOING
TO GO
BACK?
HAHAHA...



WE HAVE
NO CHOICE.
LET'S
KEEP
GOING..

WE'LL
FIND
MITSUO
LATER.



HEY
ARE
WE
GOING
TO EAT
IT
RAW?

OF
COURSE
WE
ARE.

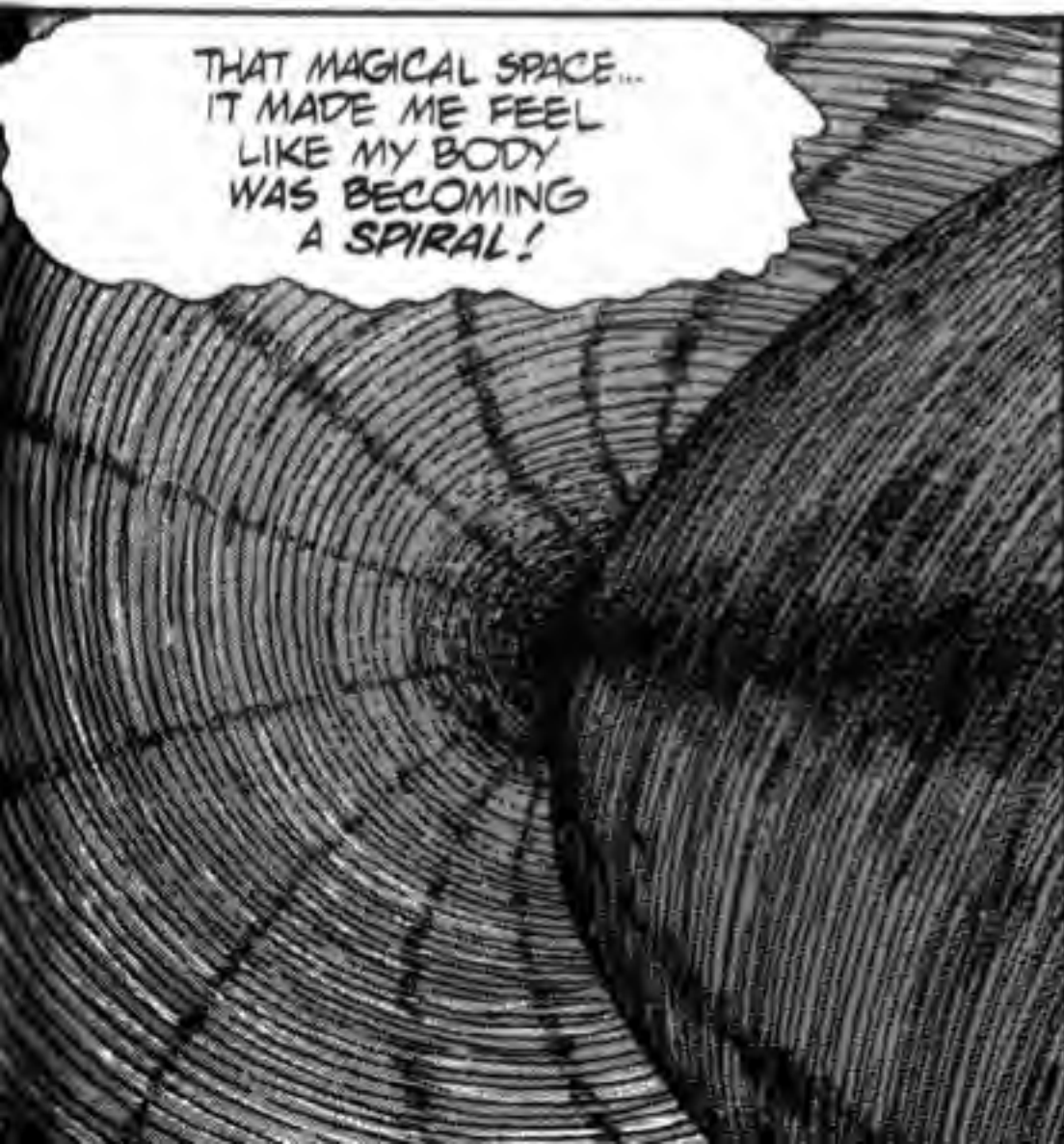


REMEMBER
WHAT
OKAMOTO
TASTED
LIKE?



THAT
SENSATION OF
BEING INSIDE
HIS SHELL,
CHEWING ON THE
SOFT PARTS OF
HIS FACE...

FITTING
YOUR WHOLE
BODY
INTO THOSE
WET,
WONDERFUL
CURVES...



THAT MAGICAL SPACE...
IT MADE ME FEEL
LIKE MY BODY
WAS BECOMING
A SPIRAL!



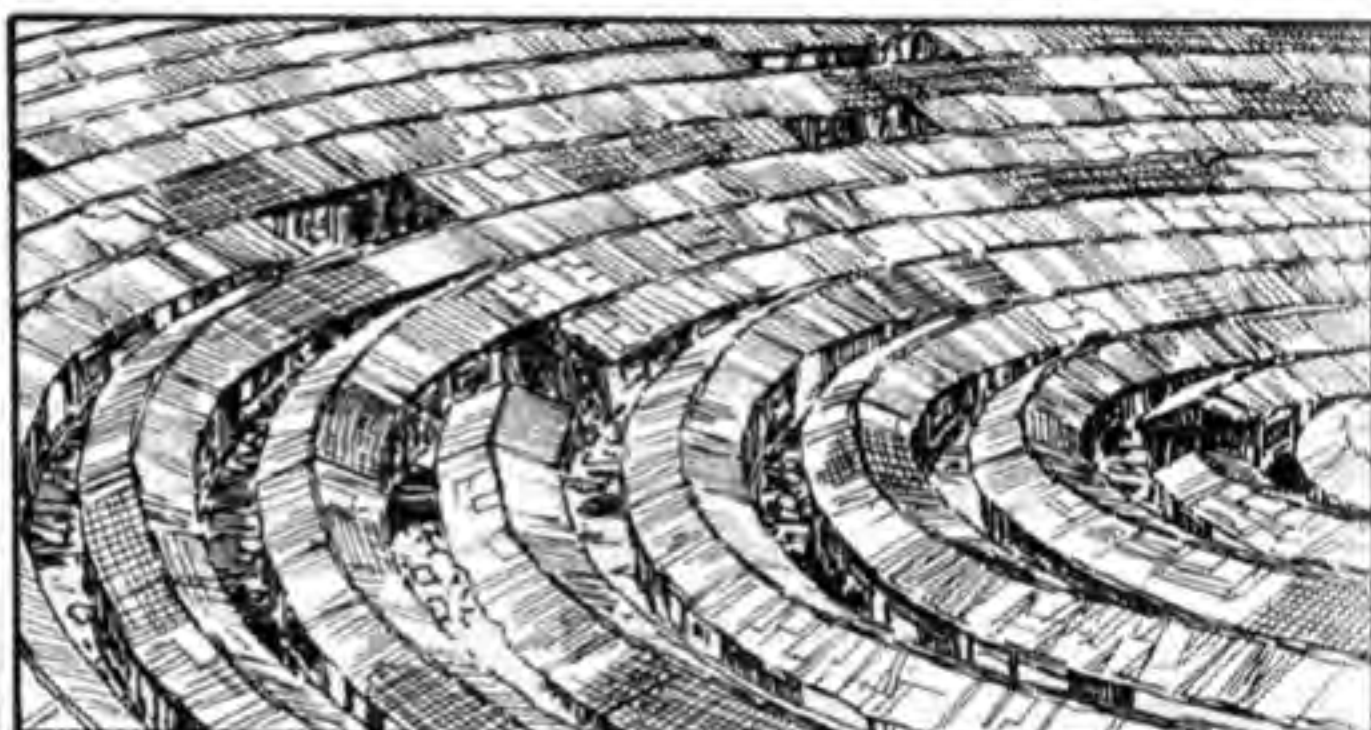
JUST
THINKING
ABOUT IT
MAKES ME
FEEL
LIKE I'M
GOING
TO...





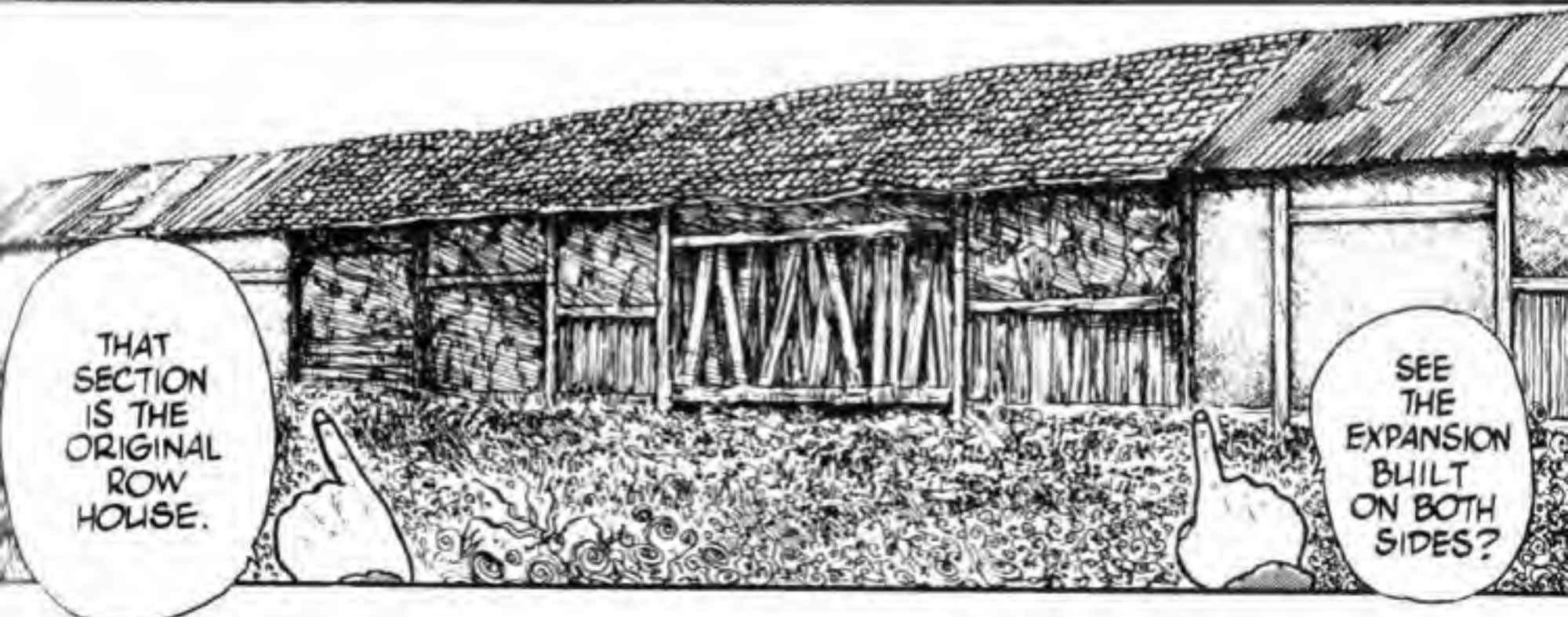
CHAPTER
18
THE
LABY-
RINTH













BUT
IT'S
WEIRD...
THEY
WEREN'T
WORKING
TOGETHER
...

...SO HOW
DID THEY MANAGE
TO MAKE THEM
FIT SO
PERFECTLY?

AS
IF THEY'D
PLANNED
ON THIS
MASSIVE
SPIRAL
STRUCTURE
...



OR
MAYBE
IT
WASN'T
CONSCIOUS...

MAYBE
THESE
ABANDONED
ROW HOUSES
FORMED
A SPIRAL
A LONG
TIME AGO.

Huh?



MAYBE
THIS
WHOLE
TOWN
WAS A
SPIRAL.

BUT IT
GRADUALLY FELL
APART OVER
THE YEARS,
LEAVING BEHIND
THESE SCATTERED
RUINS.



WHAT
WE'RE
LOOKING
AT
NOW...

...MIGHT
ONLY BE
A RECON-
STRUCTION
OF THE WAY
KURŌZU-CHO
USED TO
BE.



...

WHAT IS...
WHAT IS...
WHAT AM I
SUPPOSED
TO THINK
ABOUT
THIS?

WHAT
ARE WE
SUPPOSED
TO DO
NOW?



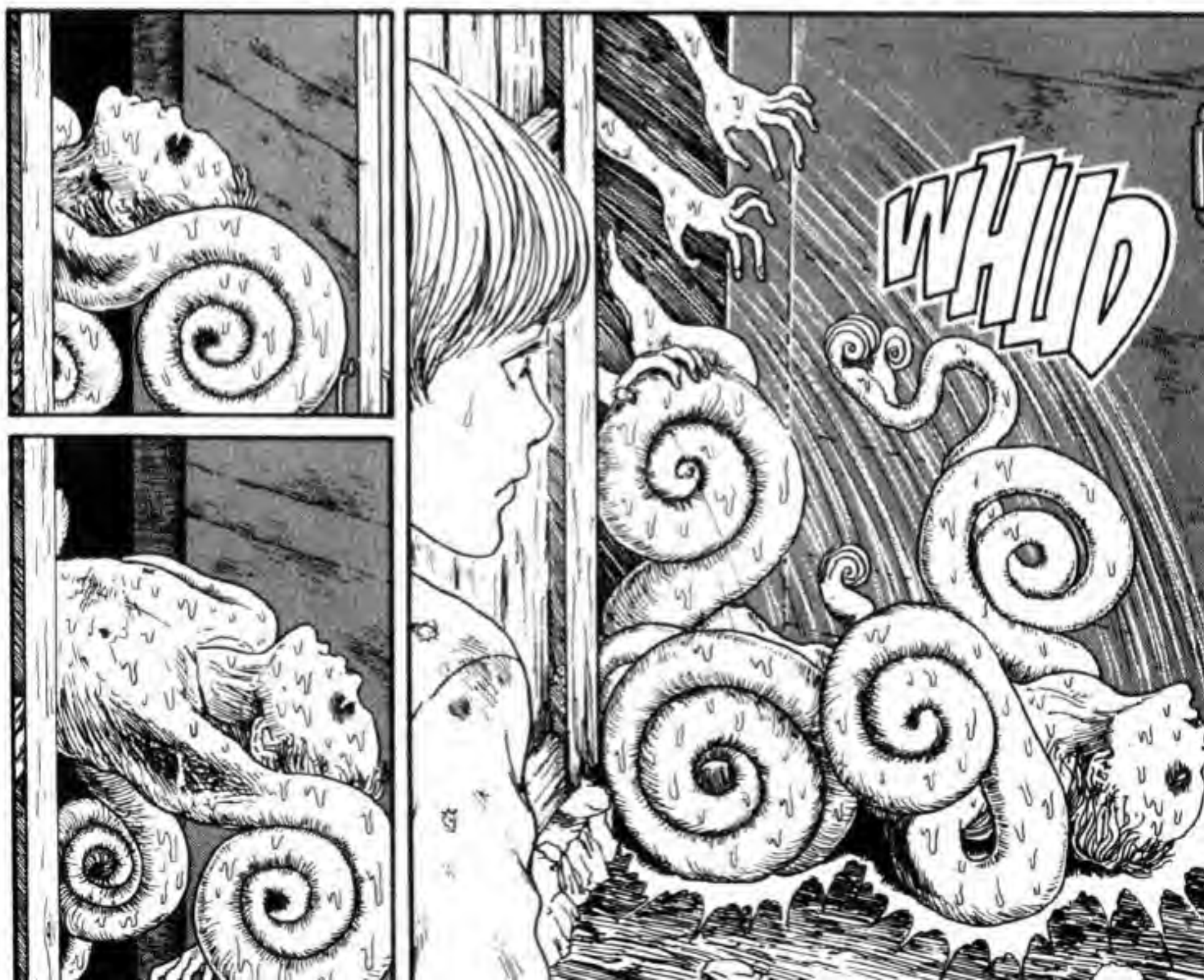
WE WALKED
EVEN
FARTHER,
AND AT
LAST...

WE
FOUND
THE
WAY
INTO
THE
ALLEY











HE
DIED
THIS
MORNING.



IT WAS
SUCH AN ORDEAL
TO UNTANGLE
THAT CORPSE
FROM US...

PLEASE TAKE
IT SOMEWHERE
AND BURN IT...THE
SMELL WILL BE
UNBEARABLE SOON...



Ahh...

LET'S
JUST
GO!



MBL
MBL

RR
RR

Creak

Creak

NNBL
NNBL

MURMUR

Creak

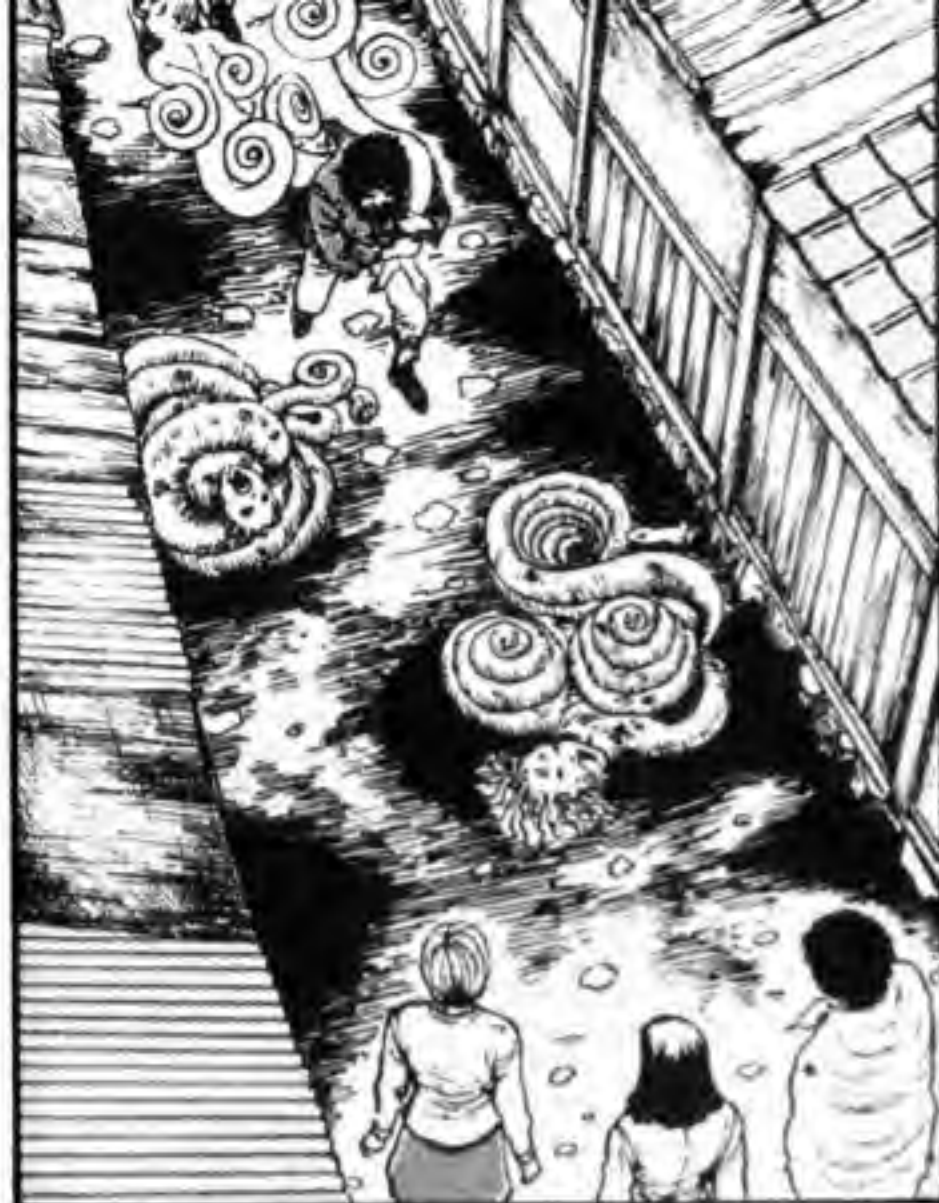


WHAT'S
THAT
SMELL
?

IT'S
COMING
FROM
UP
AHEAD.











Oh...
CERAMICS...
YOU KNOW,
I HEARD ABOUT
A COUPLE
THAT WAS STILL
MAKING POTTERY
BY DRAGONFLY
POND.

WHAT?!

REALLY?!

Oh,
YES.

I
HAVEN'T
SEEN
THEM
MYSELF,
THOUGH.




I
HEARD
HE SAYS,
"CERAMICS
IS THE ART
OF THE
SPIRAL."



TH-
THAT'S
HIM!
THAT'S
HIM!


THEY'RE
ALIVE!

THAT'S
WONDERFUL,
KIRIE!



THANK YOU
SO MUCH,
MR. TANIZAKI!
I'M GOING
THERE NOW.

YOU
DO
THAT.



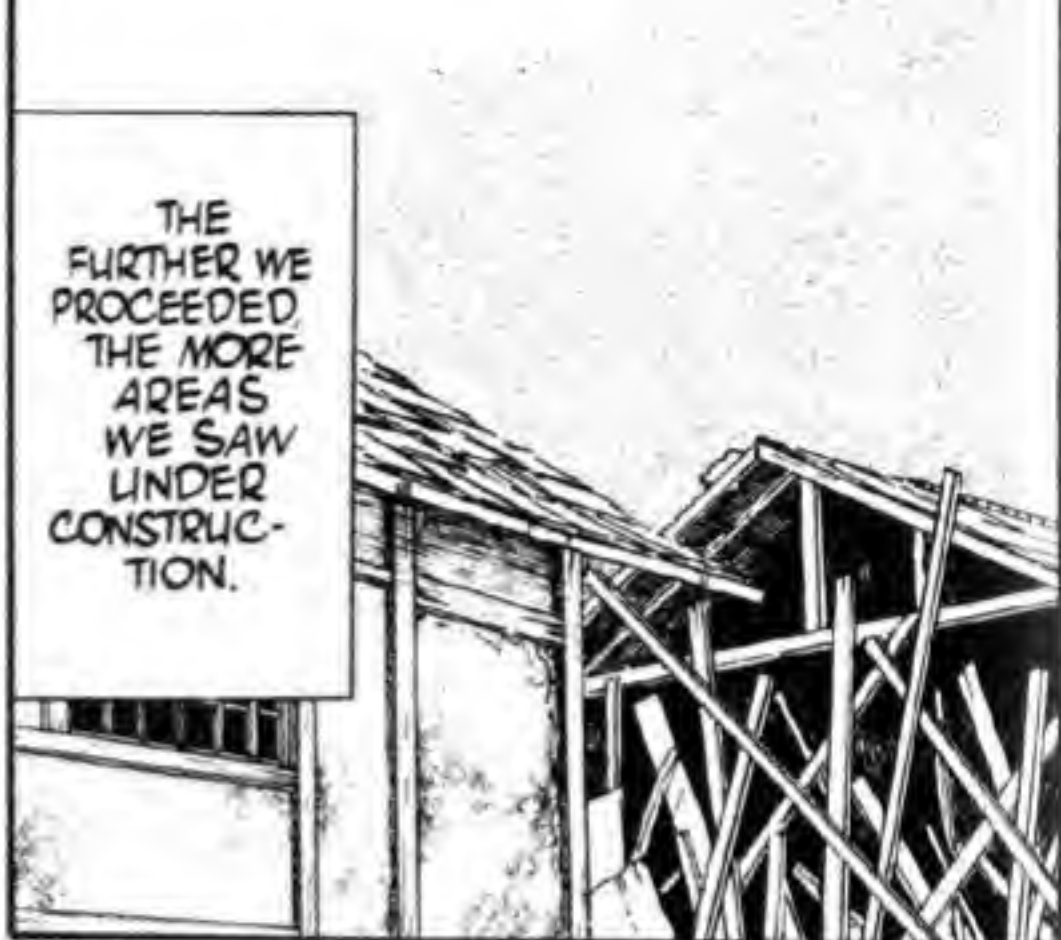
BUT IT
WON'T BE EASY
TO GET THERE!
THERE'S LOTS
OF DEADFALLS
FURTHER ON.

EVEN
I'VE NEVER
BEEN TO
DRAGONFLY
POND.



AS
MR.
TANIZAKI
HAD
SAID..

THE
FURTHER WE
PROCEEDED,
THE MORE
AREAS
WE SAW
UNDER
CONSTRUC-
TION.



MOST OF
ALLEYS WERE BLOCKED
BY HEAPS OF RUBBLE
OVER WHICH WE WERE
TOO EXHAUSTED TO CLIMB.



WE KEPT
MAKING
OUR WAY
THROUGH THE
LABYRINTH.



ANOTHER
DEAD
END.



I
WONDER
WHERE
WE ARE?

THERE'S
AN OPENING
THIS
WAY.





I
WONDER
IF ALL
THE
BUILDINGS
IN
TOWN...

...ARE
STUFFED
WITH
PEOPLE
LIKE
THAT.



BUT IF SHUICHI IS RIGHT ABOUT THIS TOWN BEING BASED ON A TOWN FROM THE PAST...

WHY WAS IT BUILT LIKE THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE?



WELL, WE DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY IDEA...

WHY THEY'RE REBUILDING IT LIKE THIS.



MAYBE...

MAYBE
IT'S BEEN
REPEATED OVER
AND OVER
SINCE ANCIENT
TIMES.



WHAT
?

EVERY
CENTURY,
OR EVERY
FEW CENTURIES,
THE SPIRAL
COMES
TO HAUNT
THIS
TOWN...

AND
EVERY TIME
IT DOES, THE
INHABITANTS
BUILD THEIR
TOWN IN THIS
SHAPE.



BUT
WOULDN'T
THERE
HAVE
BEEN
RECORDS
OF
THIS?



OR
WAS
IT
TOO
LONG
AGO?



NO...

THE
OLD HOUSES
ARE MADE OF
WOOD SO
THEY CAN'T
BE THAT
ANCIENT.

AND
YET THE
STORY
WAS NEVER
PASSED
ON.



MAYBE
ALL
THE
RECOLLECTIONS
WERE
LOST.



LOST
?

FOR
EXAMPLE...
MAYBE EVERY
PERSON WHO
COULD HAVE
TOLD THE
STORY
VANISHED.





AS WE
WANDERED
THROUGH THE
LABYRINTH,
WE LOST
TRACK OF
WHICH WAY
WE WERE
GOING.



WHERE
ARE
WE
NOW?

I
CAN'T DO
THIS
ANYMORE
...I CAN'T
WALK...



HEY.

LOOK
UP
THERE







LOOK!
THERE'S
A
GAP
OVER
THERE!



COME
ON!

IF
WE DON'T
HURRY,
THIS WAY
WILL
BE
SEALED!

OKAY!



BAM
BAM

SWISH



THK

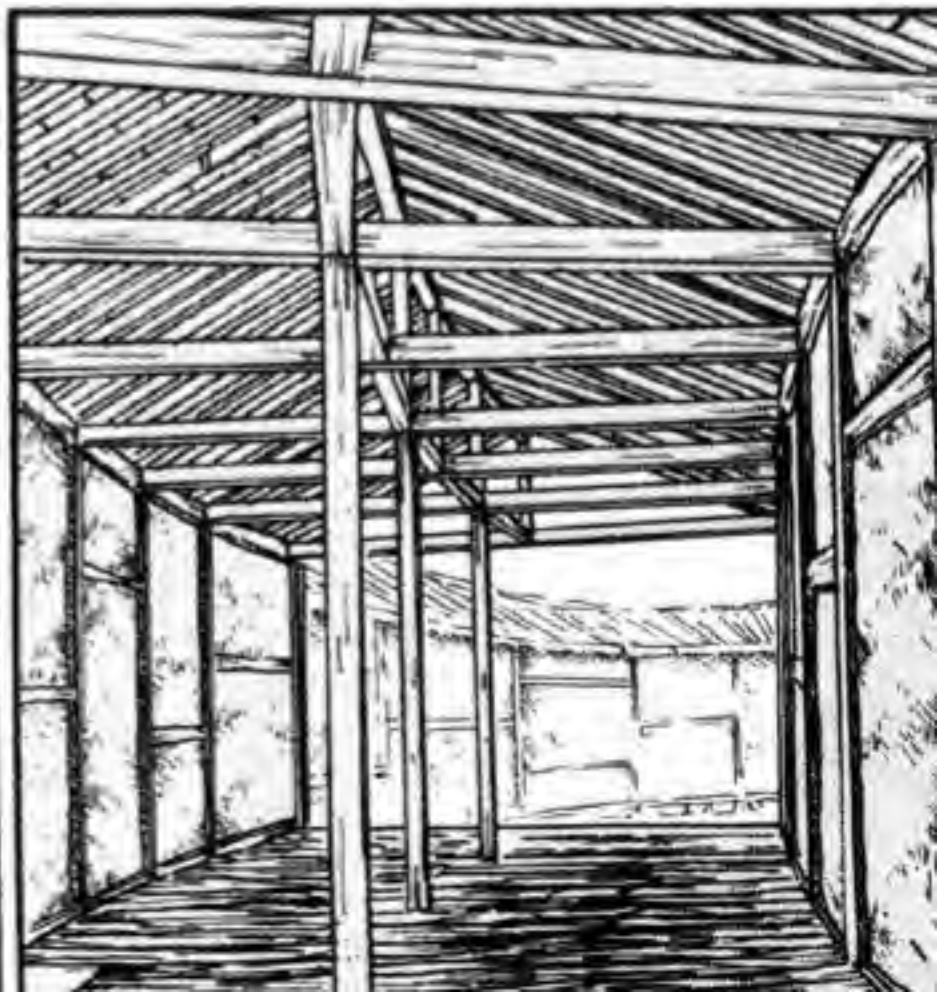
NO!



IT
MOVED
TOWARDS
THE
CENTER,
TRACING
A
CIRCLE..

AND
THE ENTIRE
AREA
WAS DEAD
SILENT.







WH-
WHAT
IS
THIS?!



THIS MUST
HAVE BEEN
DRAGONFLY
POND.

THE
WATER'S
RECEDED
...



WHAT
ABOUT MY
MOTHER
AND
FATHER?

I THOUGHT
THEY WERE
MAKING
POTTERY
HERE.



KIRIE ...

IF THEY WERE HERE ONCE, THEY'RE NOT HERE NOW.



LOOK DOWN THERE, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT WAS HERE ALL THIS TIME, THIS WELL AT THE BOTTOM OF THE POND?

SOMEONE BUILT THESE SPIRAL STAIRS. THEY LOOK LIKE ANCIENT RUINS.



THE PEOPLE IN THE ROW HOUSES ...

...MUST HAVE FALLEN DOWN THIS HOLE ALL AT ONCE.



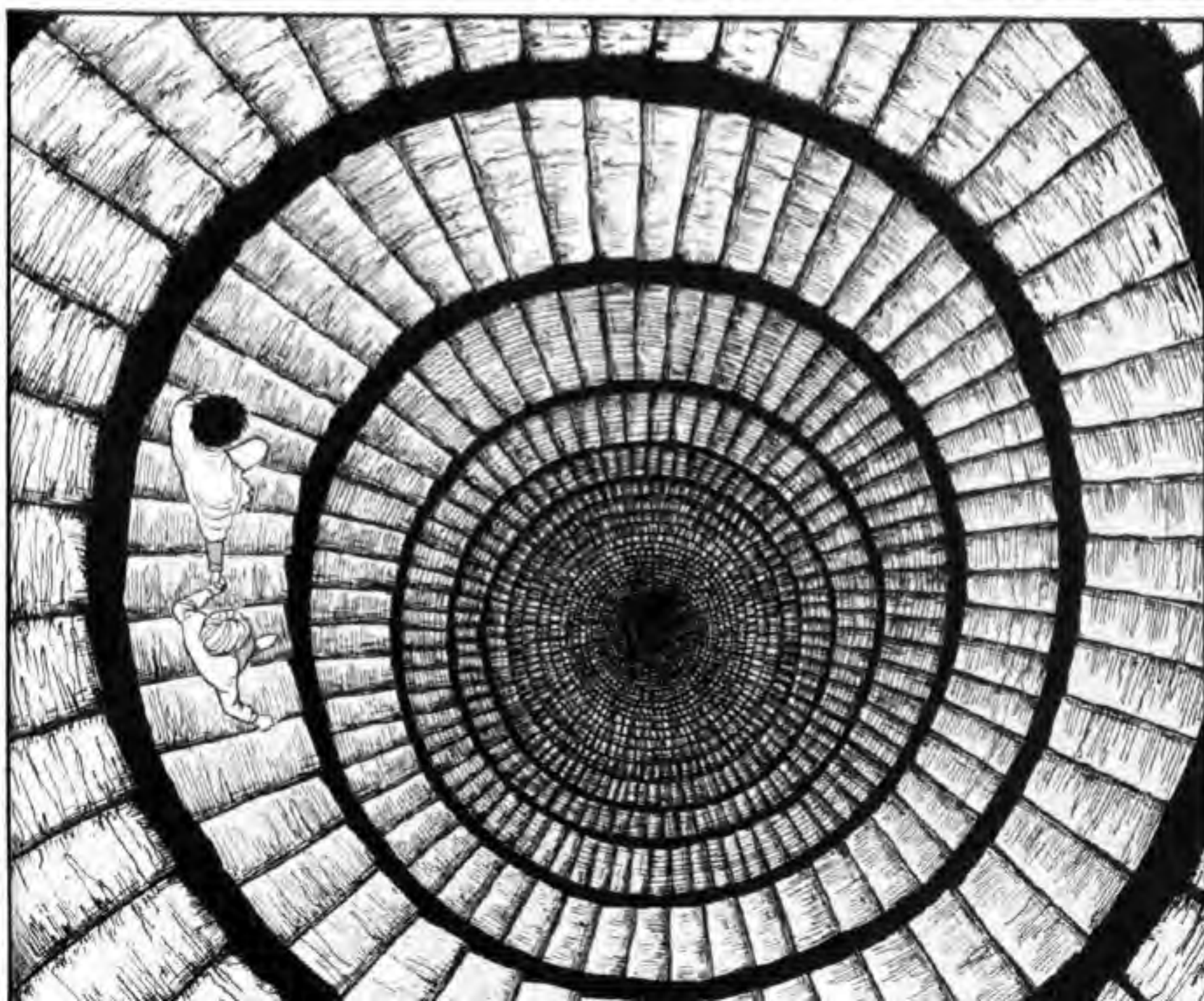
WHEN WAS IT BUILT? WHO BUILT IT? WHY?

HOW FAR DOWN DOES IT GO?

THE CAUSE OF THE SPIRAL CURSE HAUNTING THIS TOWN MAY BE HIDDEN DOWN BELOW...





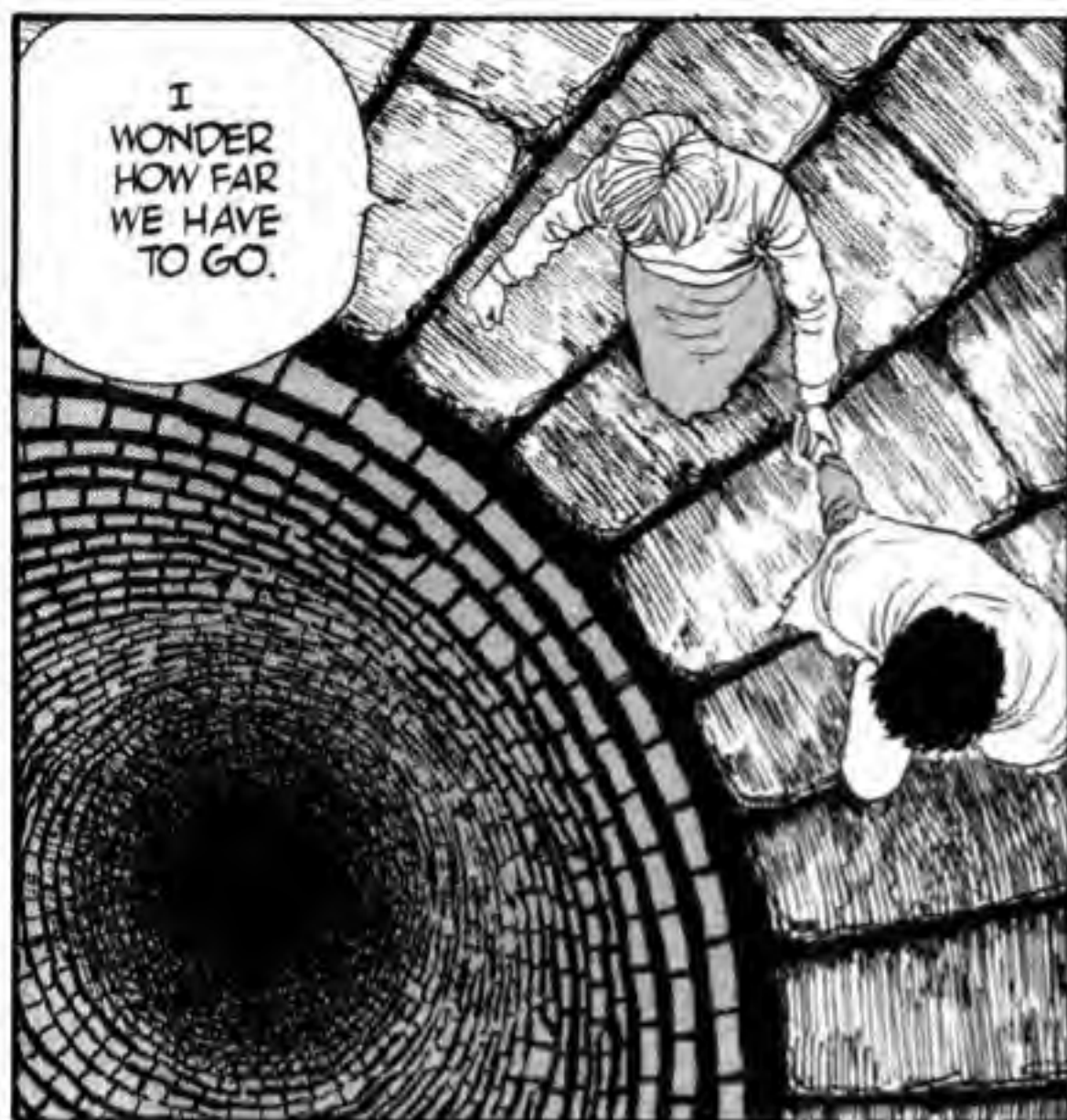


CHAPTER

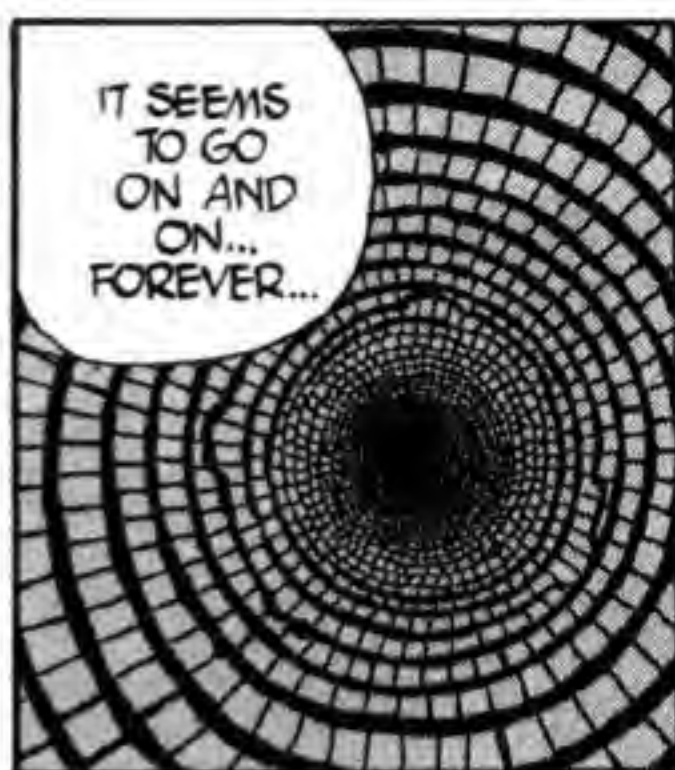
19

COMPLETION





I
WONDER
HOW FAR
WE HAVE
TO GO.



IT SEEMS
TO GO
ON AND
ON...
FOREVER...



Sway

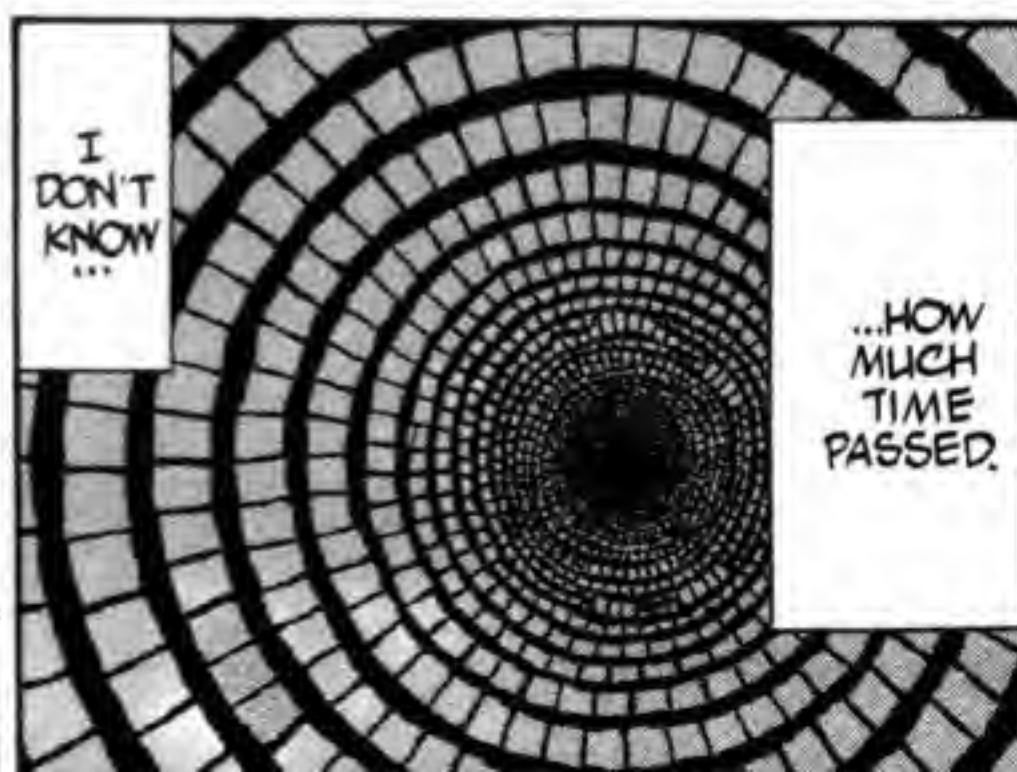


Sway



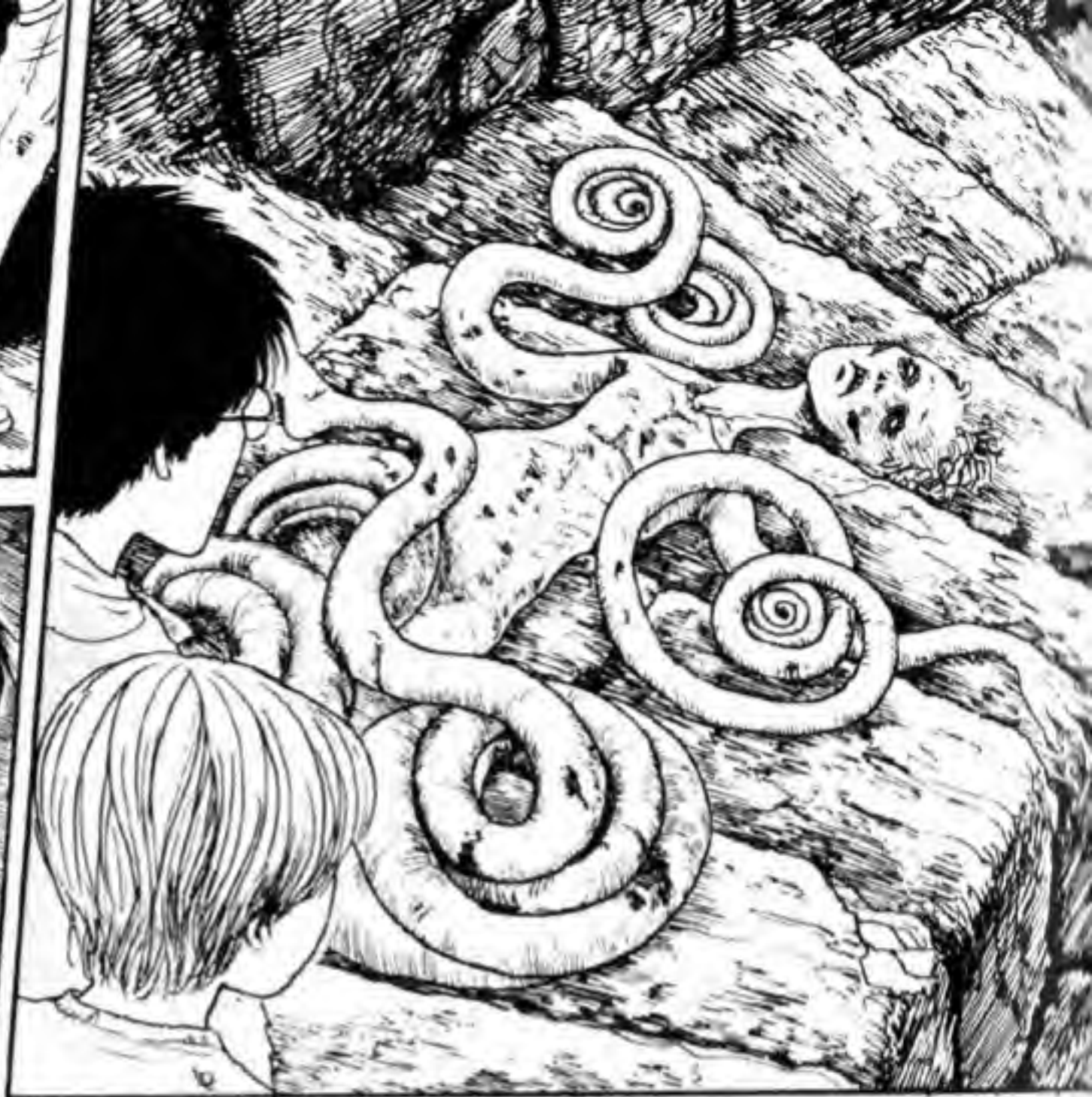
KIRIE!
BE
CAREFUL!

DON'T
LOOK
DOWN
THERE!



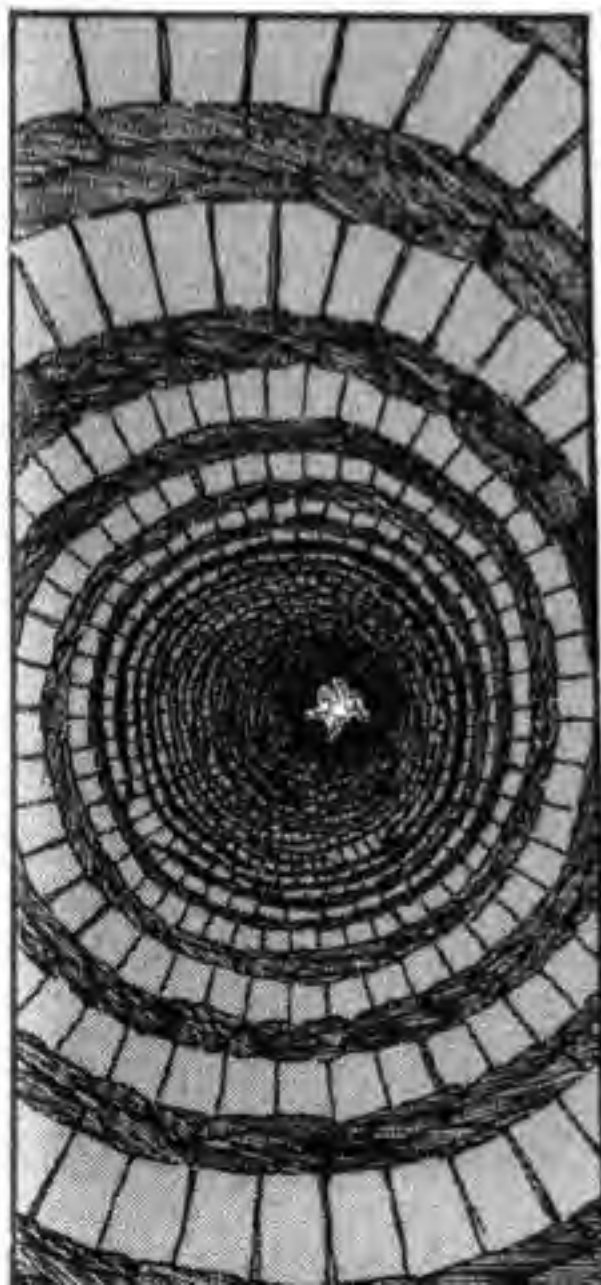
I
DON'T
KNOW
...

...HOW
MUCH
TIME
PASSED.

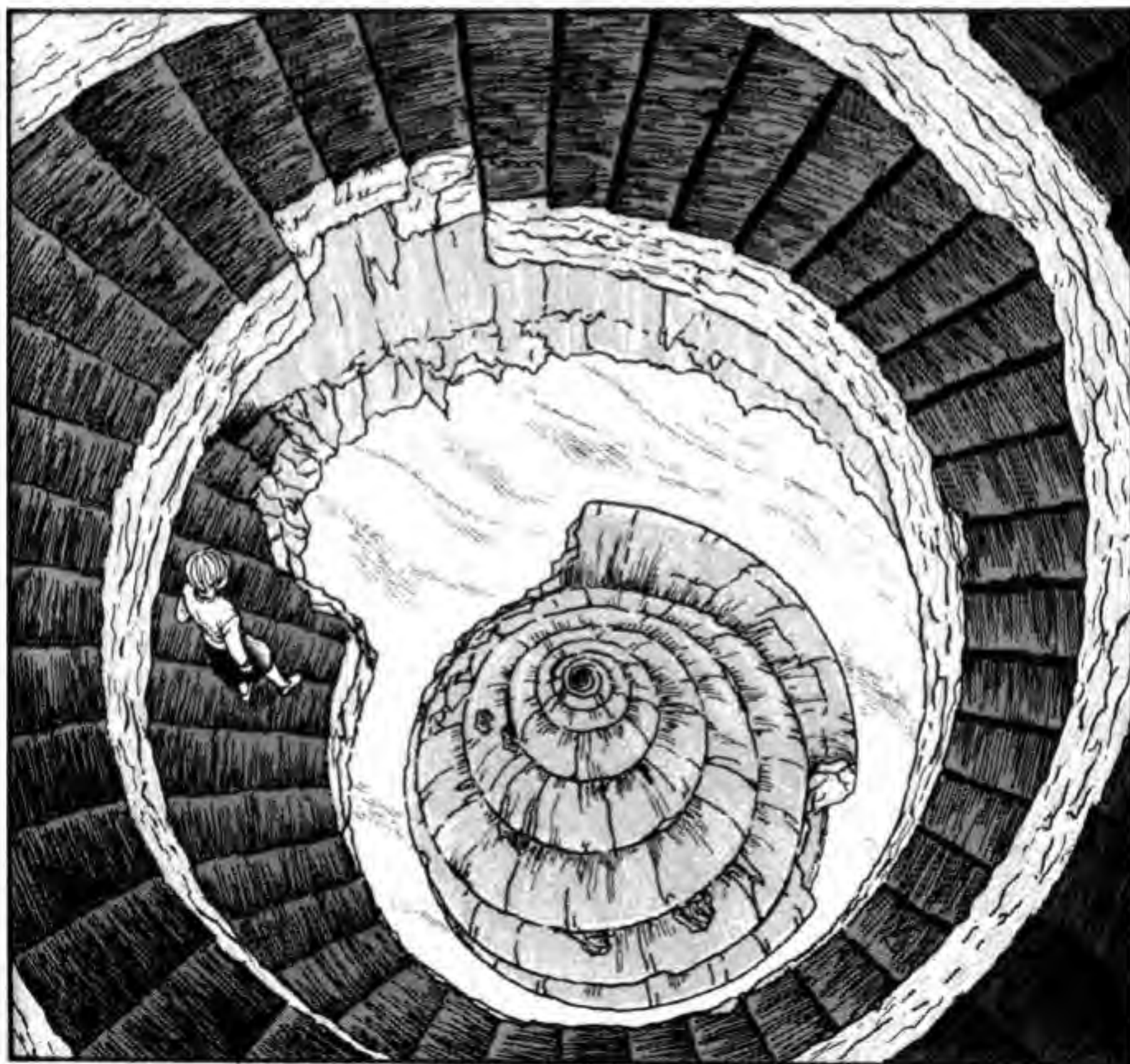










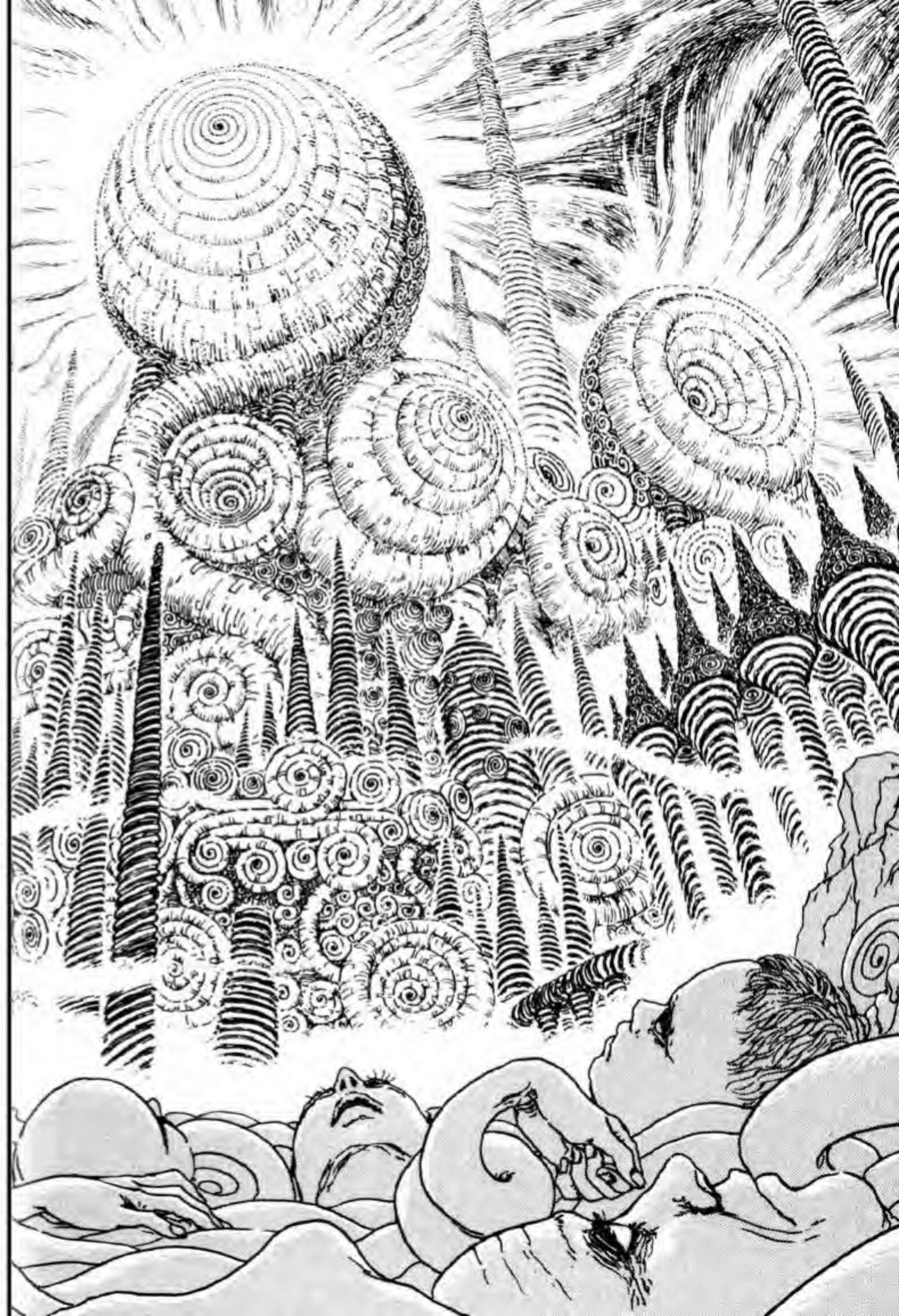


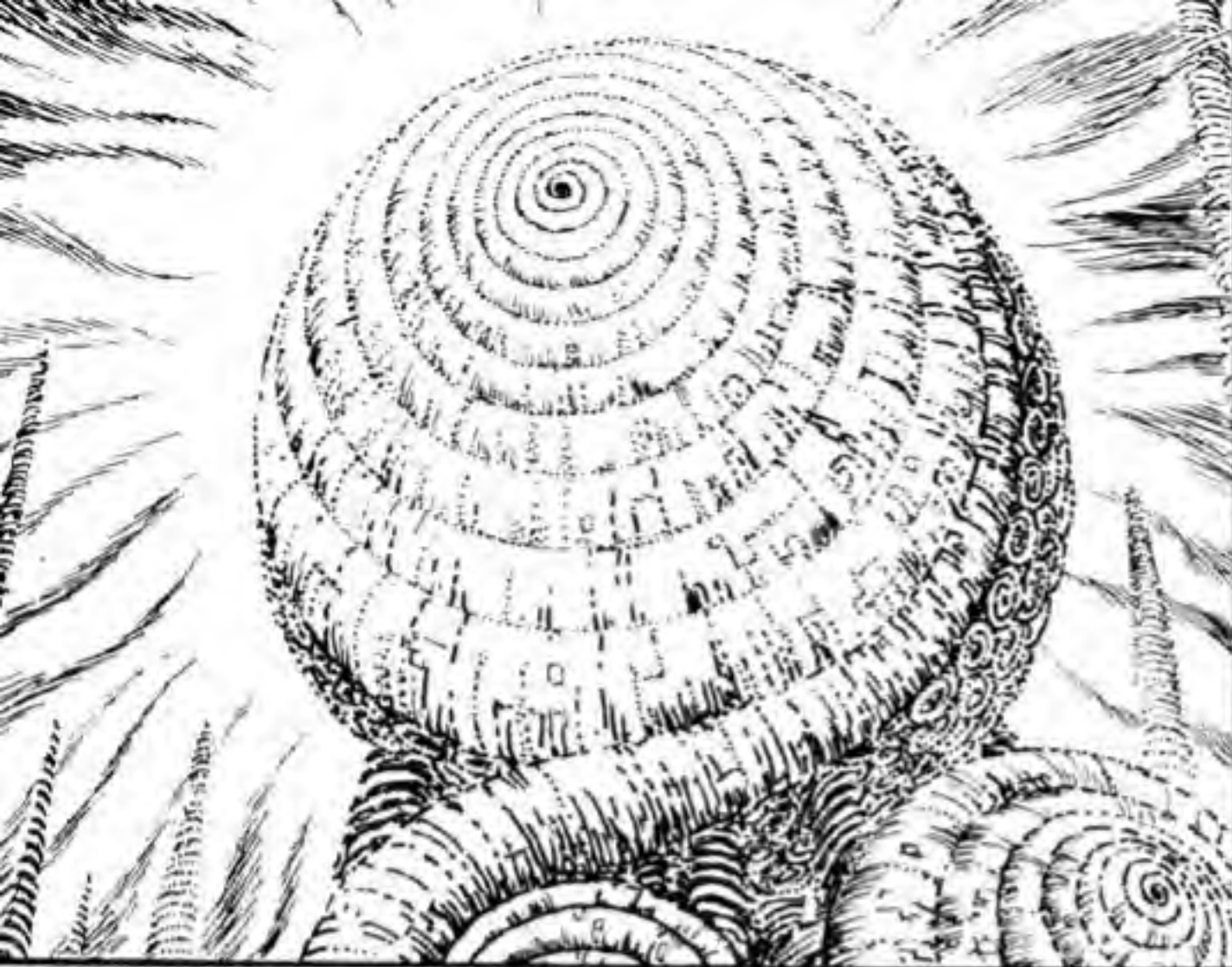










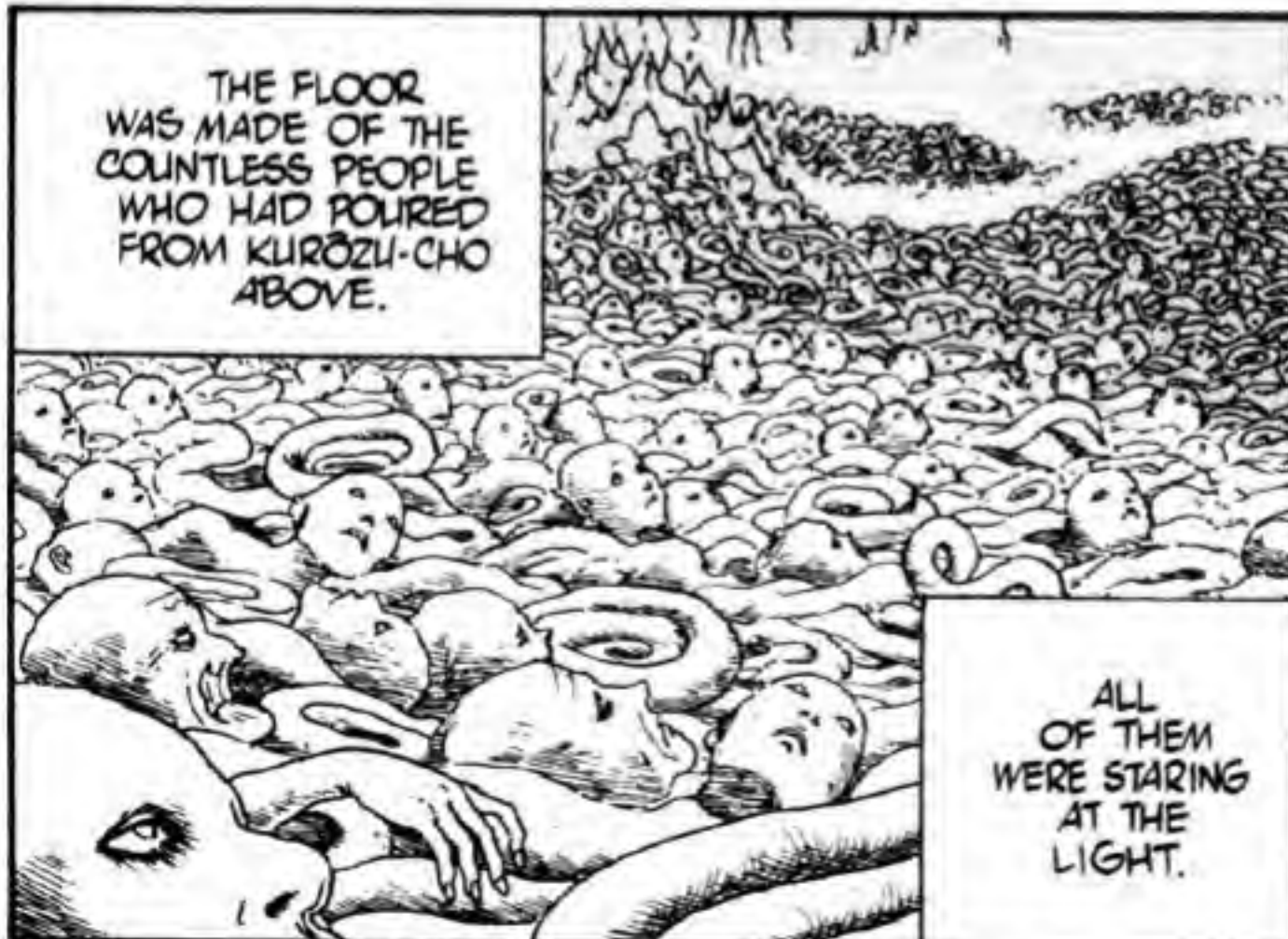


IT WAS
A CITY OF
SPIRALS.
UNLIKE
ANYTHING
I HAD EVER
SEEN.



THE
ANCIENT
RUINS
EMITTED A
MESMERIZING
LIGHT.

THE FLOOR
WAS MADE OF THE
COUNTLESS PEOPLE
WHO HAD POURED
FROM KUROZU-CHO
ABOVE.



ALL
OF THEM
WERE STARING
AT THE
LIGHT.

WHERE IS
SHUICHI
?



HE
SHOULD
HAVE FALLEN
HERE
NEAR ME!









I FEEL
LIKE
IT'S
INVADING
ME EVERY
MOMENT.

IT'S LIKE
IT'S CURSING
US FOR BEING
UNDERGROUND
HIDDEN FROM
ALL THE
EYES UP
THERE.



SPIRALS
SUCK
THINGS IN...
THE EYE
FOLLOWS
THE PATTERN
TO ITS
CENTER.

I
DON'T
KNOW WHO...
OR WHAT
BUILT
IT HERE,
OR
WHY...



BUT EVERY SO OFTEN,
EVERY FEW HUNDREDS,
OR THOUSANDS, OR
TENS OF THOUSAND
YEARS, IT CAN REACH
THE PEOPLE ABOVE
GROUND. AND EVEN
THOUGH ITS BUILDERS
ARE GONE...

MAYBE
IT'S STILL
BUILDING
ITSELF.



SHUICHI
...

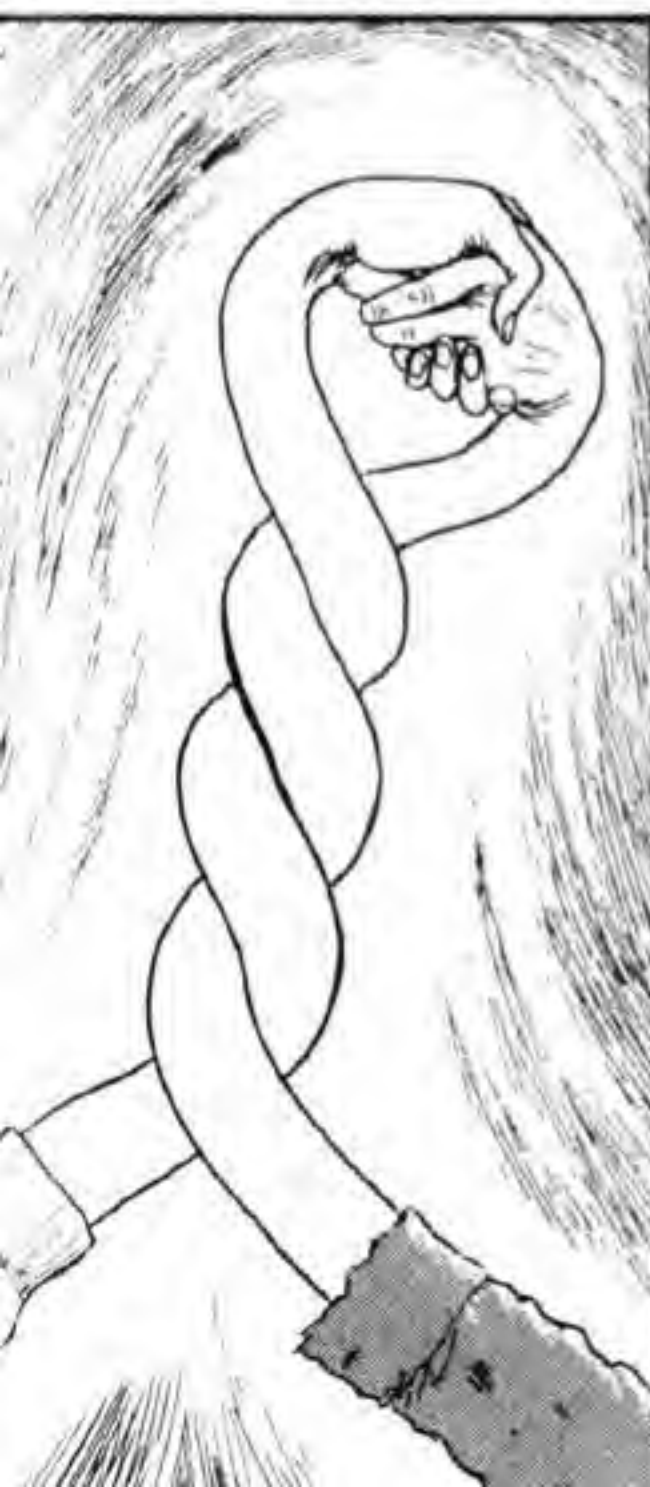
WHAT
DO WE
DO
NOW?



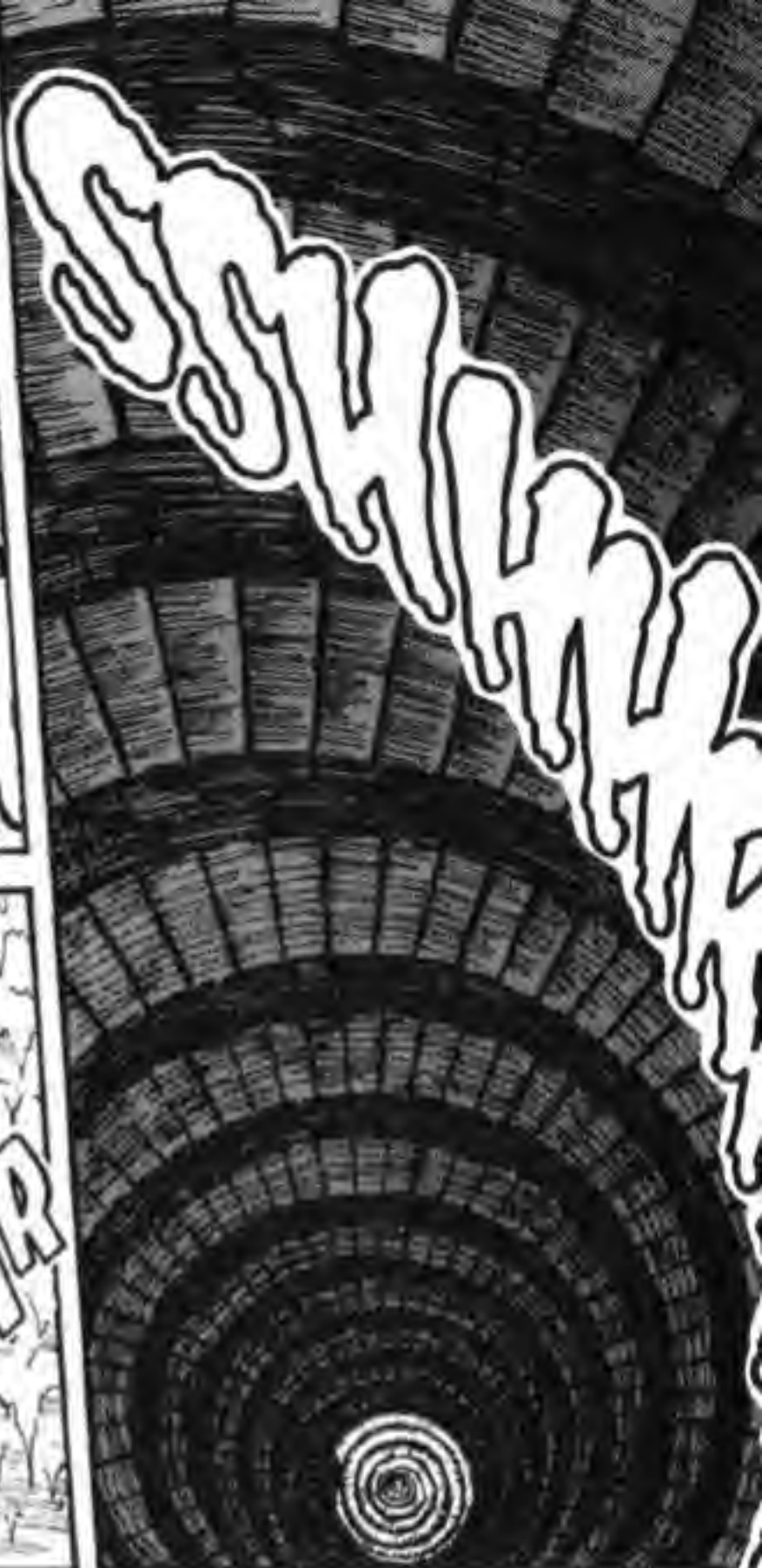
KIRIE...
I CAN'T
RUN
AWAY
ANY
LONGER.

LEAVE
ME HERE.
YOU HAVE
TO KEEP
FIGHTING.

I
THINK
SOON THIS
CURSE
WILL BE
OVER.







AND WITH
THE SPIRAL
COMPLETE,
A STRANGE
THING
HAPPENED...

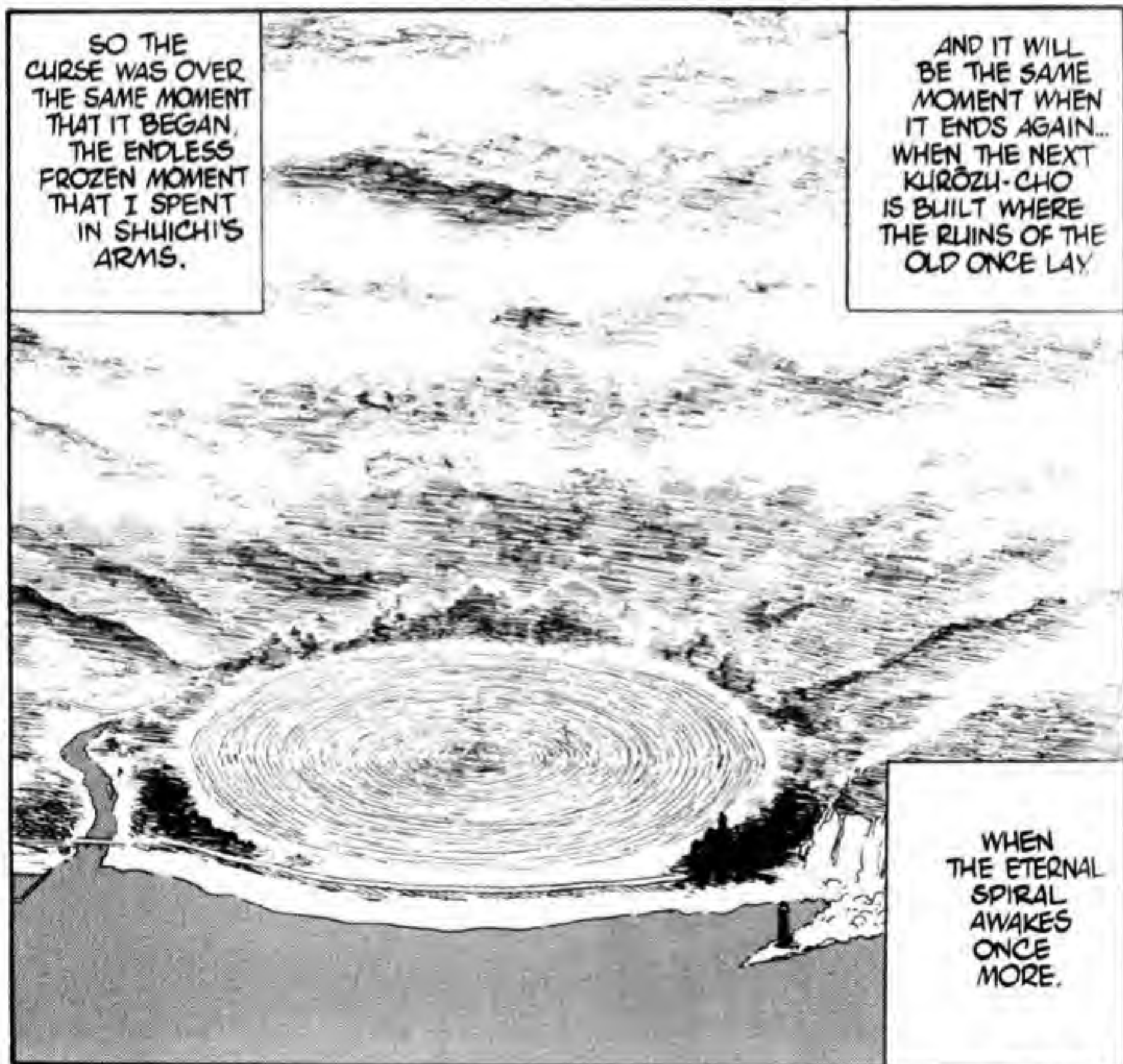


JUST AS TIME
HAD SPED UP WHEN
WE WERE ON THE
OUTSKIRTS, IN THE
CENTER OF THE
SPIRAL IT STOOD
STILL.



SO THE
CURSE WAS OVER
THE SAME MOMENT
THAT IT BEGAN,
THE ENDLESS
FROZEN MOMENT
THAT I SPENT
IN SHUICHI'S
ARMS.

AND IT WILL
BE THE SAME
MOMENT WHEN
IT ENDS AGAIN...
WHEN THE NEXT
KURŌZU-CHO
IS BUILT WHERE
THE RUINS OF THE
OLD ONCE LAY.



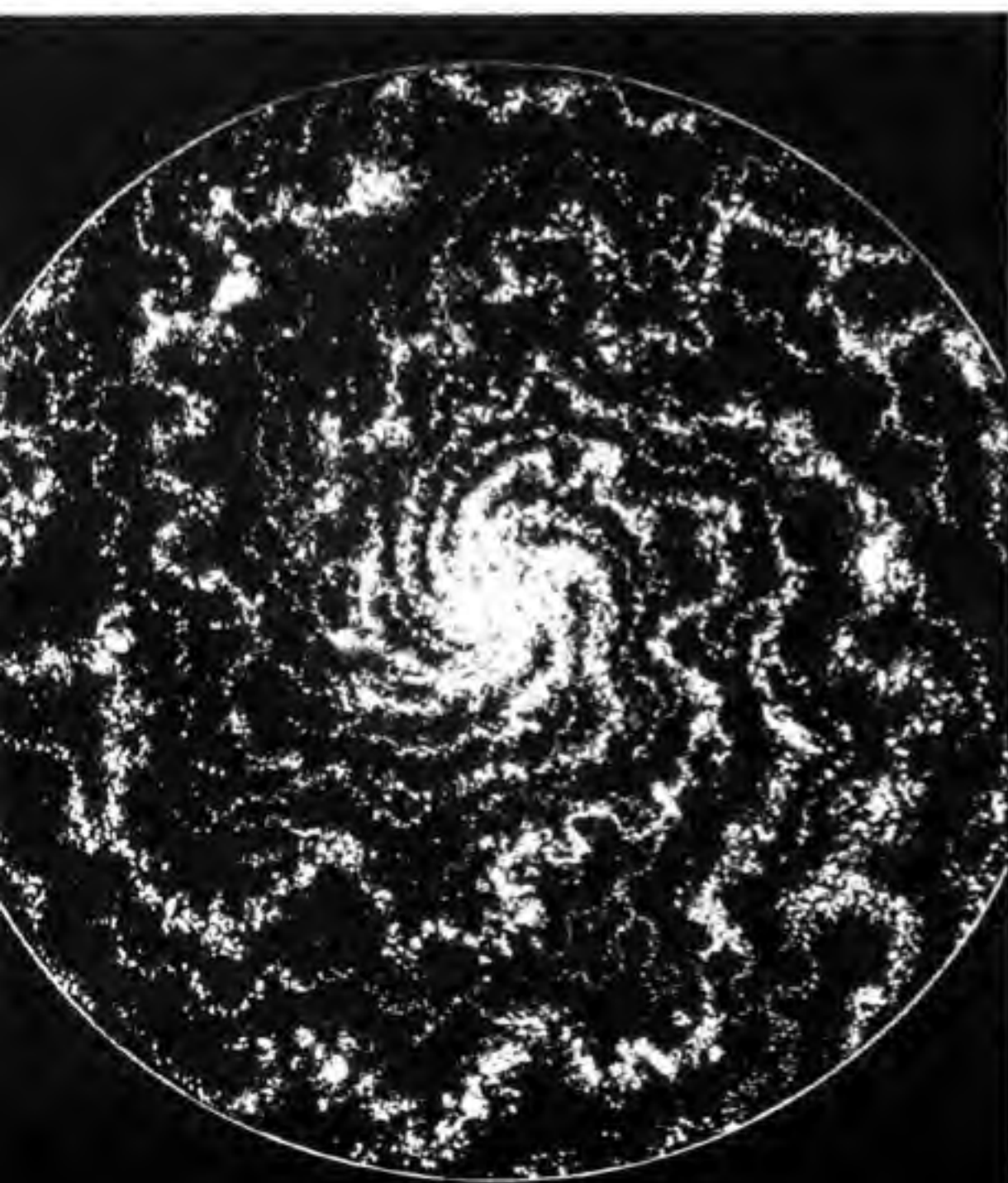
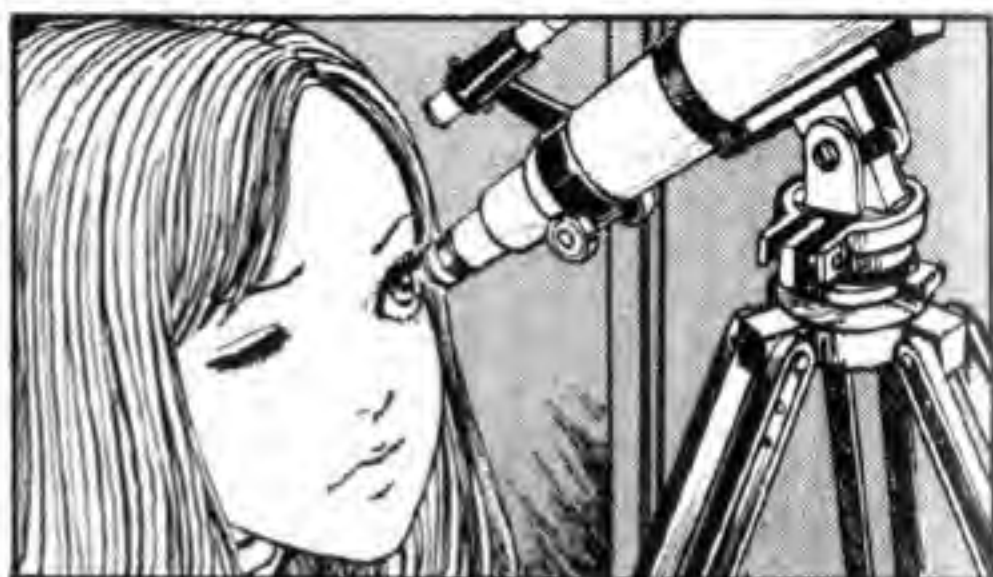
WHEN
THE ETERNAL
SPIRAL
AWAKES
ONCE
MORE.

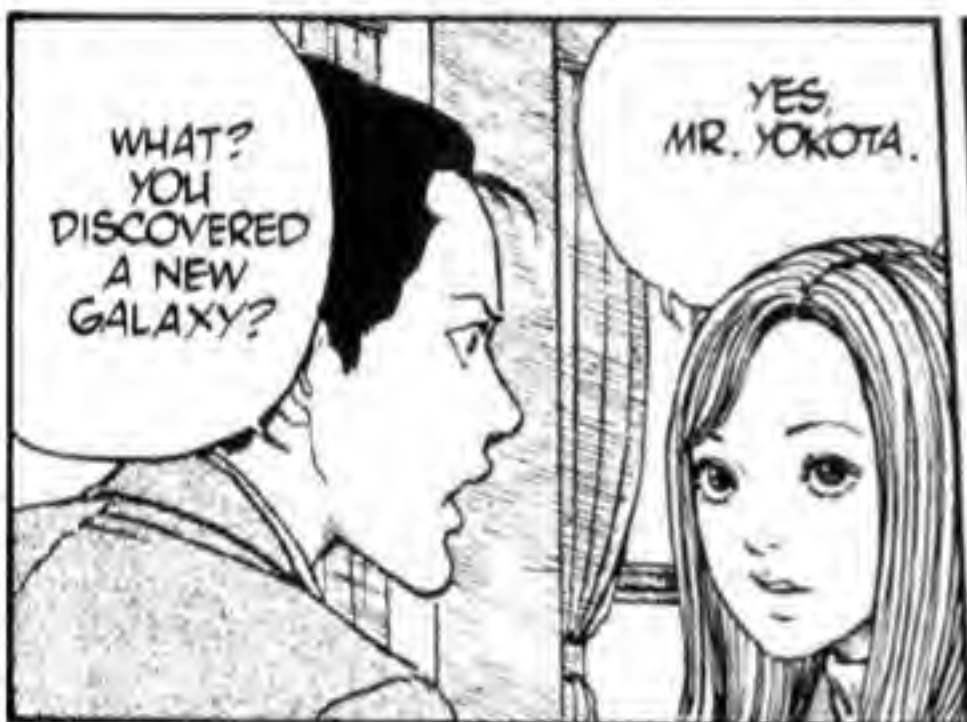
The End

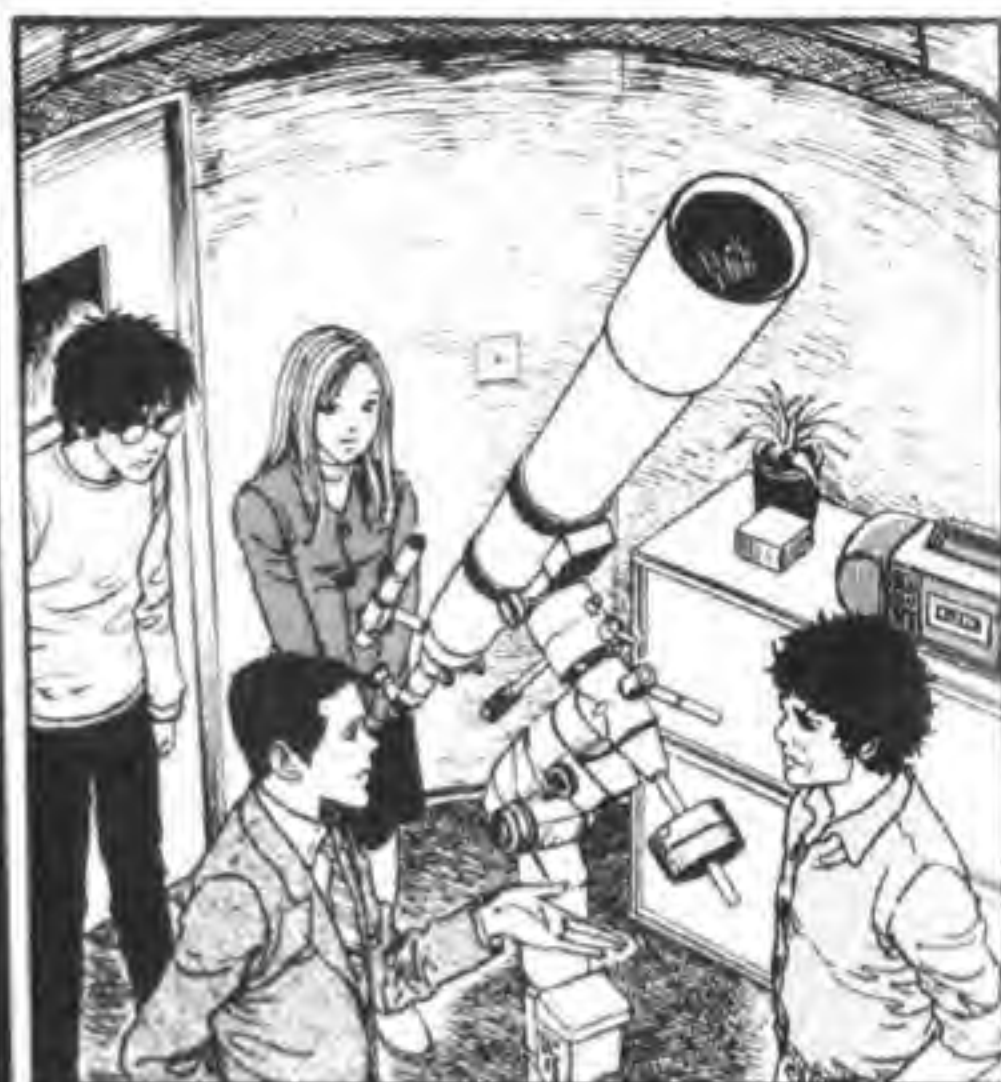
LOST
CHAPTER:

GALAXIES











WHAT?!



YOU'RE
RIGHT!

I'VE
NEVER
SEEN
THIS
SPIRAL
GALAXY
BEFORE!



REALLY?
THEN IT'S
TRUE?!



HOLD
ON... WE
SHOULDN'T
JUMP TO
CONCLUSIONS.

WE'LL
HAVE TO
CHECK WITH
THE NATIONAL
ASTRONOMICAL
OBSERVATORY
TO MAKE
SURE IT
ISN'T
REGISTERED
ALREADY.



BUT... IF
IT'S TRUE,
THEN THIS IS
A REAL FIND.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

IT
MIGHT
ACTUALLY
BE NAMED
AFTER
YOU. THE
SHUICHI
GALAXY!



ARE YOU
KIDDING?
I DON'T
WANT MY
NAME
ASSOCIATED
WITH
THAT!

THAT
THING...

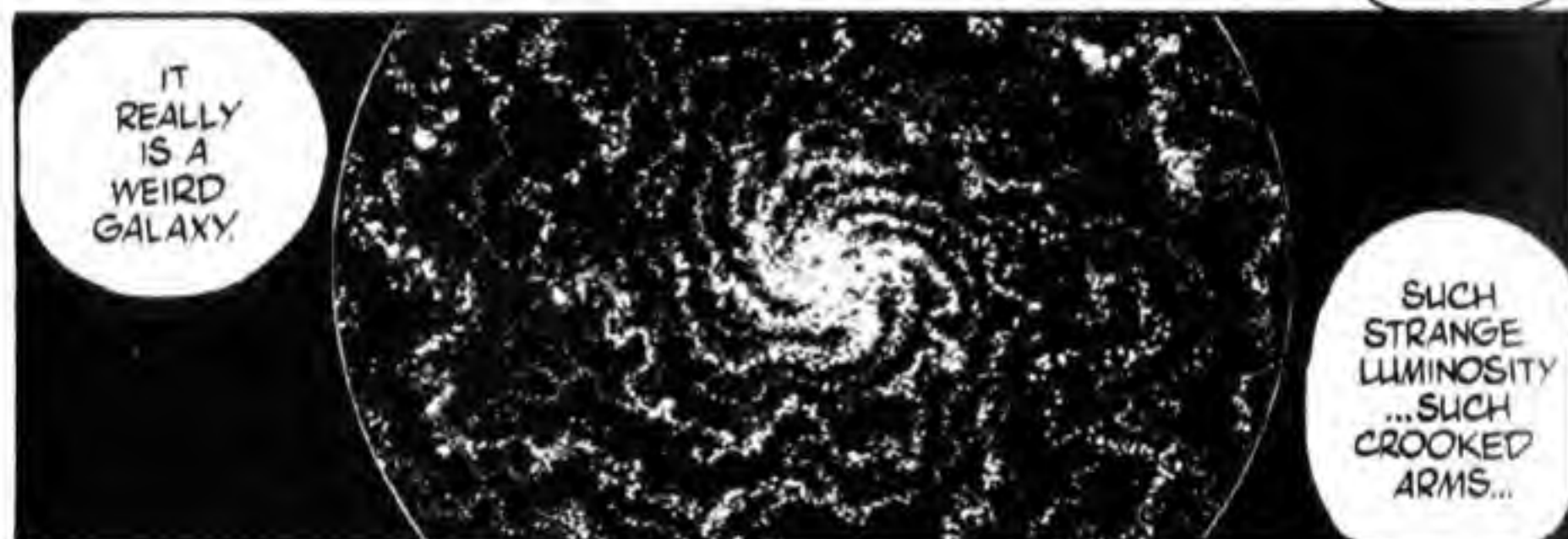


...



GOOD
WORK!
THIS IS
ABSOLUTELY
INCREDIBLE!

TORINO
WILL REPORT
IT TO THE
NATIONAL
ASTRONOMICAL
OBSERVATORY
WE JUST
NEED TO
WAIT FOR
THE RESULTS
I HAVE
HIGH HOPES
THOUGH.



IT
REALLY
IS A
WEIRD
GALAXY.

SUCH
STRANGE
LUMINOSITY
...SUCH
CROOKED
ARMS...



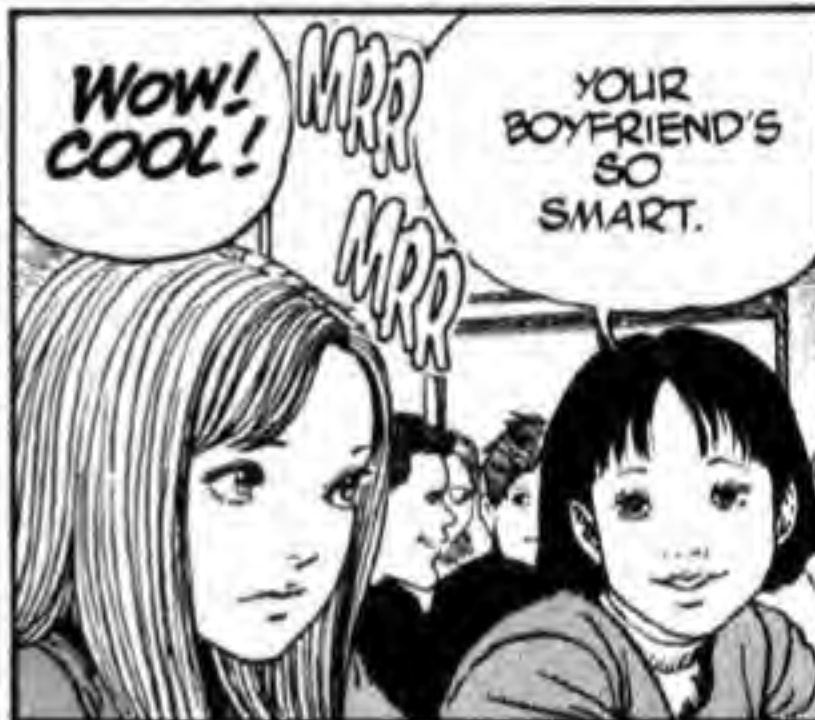
BUT...
WHY
DIDN'T I
NOTICE IT
UNTIL
NOW?

IT'S SO
CLEAR.
HOW COULD
I HAVE
MISSED
IT?



IF
THIS
IS A
NEW
DISCOVERY
...

THEN IT'S
ABSOLUTELY
AMAZING!







THE
RADIO
WAVES!

I
FEEL
THE
**RADIO
WAVES!**



RADIO
WAVES
...?

POWERFUL
WAVES!



THEY'RE
BEING
TRANS-
MITTED
INTO MY
HEAD!

THEY'RE
SENDING
A
MESSAGE
...TALKING
TO ME!



WH-
WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING?

GET
AHOLD
OF YOUR
SELF!



uff

hff

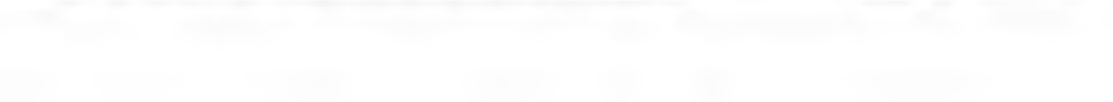


uff

hff














YES...
I DID
MAKE THAT
CLAIM.

I AM
IN FACT
THE
DISCOVERER.



WH-

WHAT?!



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?
SHUICHI
FOUND IT
BEFORE
YOU DID!



HE
RELINQUISHED
HIS CLAIM,
SO I
DISCOVERED
IT BY
DEFAULT.



TH-
THAT'S
PRE-
POSTEROUS!

THAT'S
RIGHT,
TORINO
...IT'S
NOT
FAIR!



Oh,
YES
IT IS.

I
TALKED
IT
OVER
WITH
HIM.



IN
ANY CASE,
IT'S A
SPECTACULAR
GALAXY.

IT'LL
PROVIDE
YEARS OF
SCIENTIFIC
RESEARCH,
AND I'M SURE
IT'LL YIELD
UP ITS
MYSTERIES.



THERE'S
ONE
THING
I
ALREADY
KNOW.

IT
SENDS OUT
POWERFUL
TRANSMISSIONS,
FAR GREATER
THAN MOST
SO-CALLED
"RADIO
GALAXIES."



I KNOW THIS...

BECAUSE I MYSELF HAVE RECEIVED ITS SIGNALS!



THOSE RADIO WAVES, THAT RADIATION, FROM MILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS AWAY, IS BEING SENT TO ME!



AND THE MOST AMAZING THING IS...

NOW I CAN SEND RADIO WAVES TOO!



UH... TORINO...

GET OUT! I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY!

THAT GALAXY IS MINE!



WAIT A MINUTE!



BY DEFAULT, I'M THE DISCOVERER! AFTER ALL, I SAW IT BEFORE YOU DID!

AND I WON'T LET YOU TAKE CREDIT FROM SHUICHI!









WH-
WHAT IS
THIS?

YOU
DAMN
THIEF! YOU
STOLE MY
DISCOVERY!

I'M
GOING
TO KILL
YOU!

I'M
HEARING
PEOPLE'S
CONVERSATIONS
IN MY
HEAD!



YOU'LL
BE THE
DEAD ONE
IF YOU
SHOW YOUR
FACE AROUND
HERE. I
DARE
YOU!

I'M
ALREADY
HEADED
YOUR WAY.
YOU'LL
SEE.



THE
STARS ARE
TELLING ME,
KILL,
KILL...

LIAR!
THAT'S
WHAT
THEY
TOLD
ME!



COME
ON, THEN,
YOU BETTER
BE
ARMED!

NOW
I
SEE
YOU!

I'M
COMING
CLOSER...
100 METERS...
90...80...



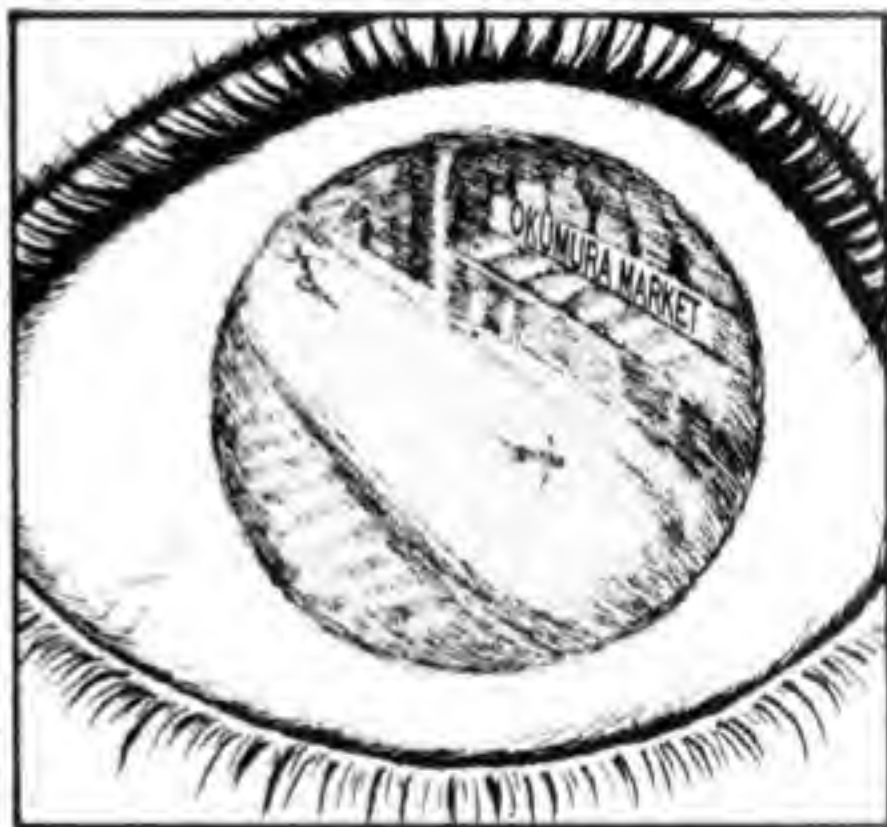
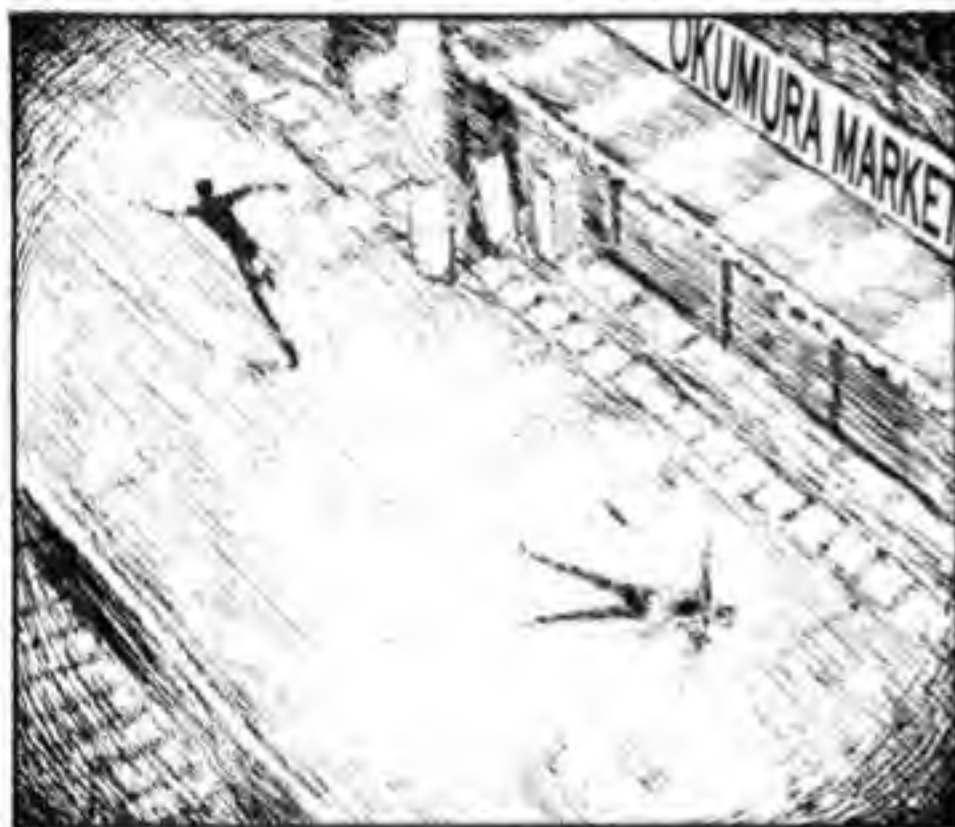
Huff...
hff... gssp...
ahh...

Uff...
hff... hff...
hhh...



TAKE THIS,
YOU BASTARD!
AAAGH!

KYAA!!

















THIS
IS
WONDER-
FUL!

THIS
IS IN-
CREDIBLE!



AND
I...
I DIS-
COVERED
IT!

I
WAS THE
FIRST
HUMAN
TO
SEE!



AM I
RIGHT?
ANSWER ME
GALAXIES!



IF IT'S
"YES," SEND
ME A SIGNAL!
SEND ME
ALL OF THEM!
BEAM ME
ALL YOUR
TRANSMISSIONS
AT ONCE!

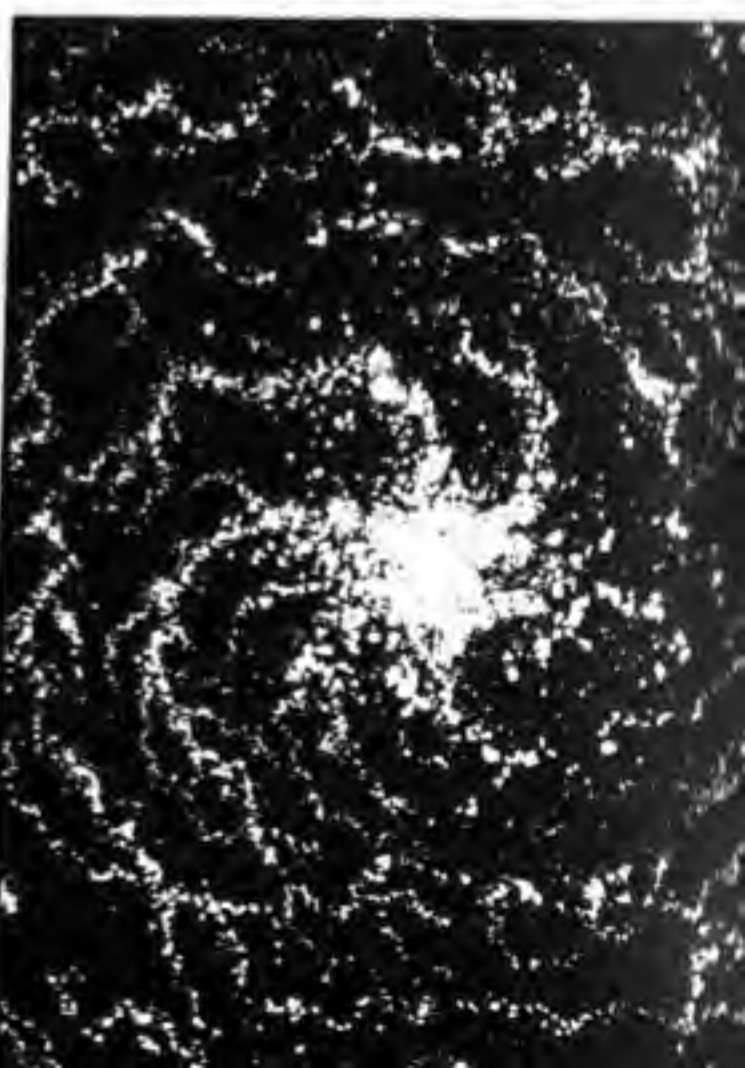


TELL
ME,
STARS!

ANSWER
ME!
NOW!



WOW!











WAS
IT A
NIGHTMARE?
I ONLY
KNOW
WHAT I
SAW.

AFTER
EXPLODING
LIKE AN EGG
IN A MICROWAVE,
TORINO'S HEAD
TURNED INTO
A SMALL
GALAXY, AND
FLEW OFF
INTO THE
NIGHT SKY.



ACCORDING TO THE
NATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL
OBSERVATORY'S DATA
ANALYSIS CENTER, NONE
OF THE NUMEROUS
GALAXY SIGHTINGS REPORTED
IN KURŌZU-CHO
WERE CONFIRMED.

THEY
WERE NEVER
SEEN AGAIN
IN THIS
TOWN AS
WELL.

THE END

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Chapter 13	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #8, 1999
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Chapter 16	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #21-22 (Double Issue), 1999
Chapter 17	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #26, 1999
Chapter 18	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #30, 1999
Chapter 19	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #39, 1999
Lost Chapter	Weekly Big Comic Spirits #9, 2000

AFTER WORD

THE
HORROR...



THE
HORROR...



RINNG
RINNG

BIG
COMIC
SPIRITS.
NAKAGUMA
SPEAKING.

N-
NAKAGUMA?
I-I'M
IN
TROUBLE...



SLURP
SLURP

ITO?
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



H-HE'S
HERE!

THE
SPIRAL
MASTER--
UZUMAKI-
SEN'NIN--
IS IN
MY
HOUSE!



"UZUMAKI-
SEN'NIN?"
WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

DON'T YOU
REMEMBER?
LAST VOLUME?
THE TWO
OF US WENT
UP TO THE
MOUNTAINS
OF G_____
PREFECTURE
AND MET
THAT MAD
HERMIT?



WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?
THAT
ENDED
WITH A
STUPID
"IT WAS JUST
A DREAM!"
PUNCHLINE!

THAT
WASN'T
A DREAM!
IT WAS
REAL! IT
WAS A
REAL
PUNCHLINE!



ITO...
STOP
KIDDING
AROUND.

BIP
BIP
BIP



THE
END

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Junji Ito was born in 1963 in Japan. Beginning with his debut story "Tomie" in 1987, Ito has gone on to become Japan's leading horror comics artist. His influences include classic manga greats Kazuo Umezu (*Drochi*) and Hideshi Hino (*Hell Baby*), and the American horror author H.P. Lovecraft. Several of Ito's works have been published to critical acclaim in English in the U.S., including *Tomie* and *Flesh-Colored Horror*. *Uzumaki* is his most popular work to date, first published in Japan in 1998-9, and is his most recent work to appear in English. It was adapted into an innovative live-action film that has been released in the U.S. by Viz Films and Tidepoint Pictures.

He is currently working on *Gyo*, a horror manga about fish.

NOMINATED FOR A 2002 EISNER AWARD!

"A superb example of Japanese manga. Ito's execution of this tale is magnificent—he infuses the often frenetic layouts of manga with...the leisurely pace of Poe, the organic grotesqueries of Lovecraft."

—Rain Taxi

With their town devastated by titanic hurricanes, the citizens of the spiral-haunted town of Kurōzu-cho—including Shuichi, Kirie and her family—find themselves cut off from the outside world. Reporters and rescue teams cross the mountain range into Kurōzu-cho only to find themselves unable to leave. Trapped inside the cursed ruins, the desperate survivors struggle and huddle together, waiting to turn into giant snails or worse. The very laws of nature are changed as the spiral sucks them in. And to fight it, or to escape, the last survivors must go to the heart of the horror to witness what may be their eventual fate...

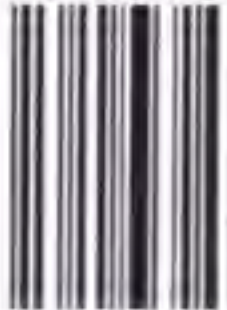
Junji Ito debuted as a horror manga artist in 1987 with the first story in his successful *Tamie* series. *Uzumaki* was adapted into a live-action movie which has been released in America by Viz Films and Tidepoint Pictures. Ito's influences include manga artists Kazuo Umezu and Hideshi Hino, and the authors Yasutaka Tsutsui and H.P. Lovecraft.

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